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# Arctic Ambitions The Photographs of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition of 1881--1884 George W Rice Photographer

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# **ARCTIC AMBITIONS**

The Photographs of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition of 1881-1884

George W. Rice Photographer

By Dr. Geoffrey E. Clark, M.D.

A.B. Harvard 1963, M.D. S.U.N.Y. Buffalo 1968

## **THESIS**

**Submitted to the University of New Hampshire  
in Partial Fulfillment of  
the Requirements for the Degree of**

**Master of Liberal Studies**

**In**

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**May, 2011**



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This thesis has been examined and approved.

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Dedicated to Alden Todd  
Lifelong Champion of Adolphus W. Greely

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The collection of the background information and location of the photographs taken on The Lady Franklin Bay Expedition would not have been possible without the assistance of innumerable individuals and institutions, for which I am most grateful. I have had the good fortune, to interview, and come to know, many loyal descendants of Adolphus W. Greely and other expedition members who provided not only family lore, but also invaluable archival material. The historical research was made infinitely easier by the cooperation and enthusiasm of two authors of definitive books on the subject, Leonard Guttridge and the late Alden Todd.

I am particularly thankful for the support for my thesis advisors: Professor Paul Brockelman, who encouraged me to undertake the MALS program and use my research on the expedition as the focus of my program and thesis; Professor Jeffrey Bolster, who introduced me to the techniques of historical writing and Professor Lisa MacFarlane, who showed me how to approach photographs critically and to put them in context. The professional staff at the United States government archives and the Library of Congress photo section were un-failingly helpful, as were Clare Flemming and Dorteia Sartain of The Explorers Club archives, Jay Satterfield director of the Rauner Special Collections Library at Dartmouth and Mindy Rosewitz, Director of the Signal Corps Archives at Fort Monmouth, NJ. Douglas Wamsley, arctic collector extraordinary, kindly allowed me to use a copy of a unique photograph.

Finally, none of this would have come to pass without the assistance of Suzanne Richardson, researcher, editor and organizer, who kept me on track.

## PREFACE

In 1986 I had the good fortune to go on a camping trip only 450 miles from the North Pole on Ellesmere Island, the farthest north in the vast archipelago that forms the high Canadian arctic. In the process of trying to learn the history of the region, I was directed to a book, *Three Years of Arctic Service* by Adolphus W. Greely, which introduced me to one of the most heroic yet least known episodes in the history of American arctic exploration: The Lady Franklin Bay Expedition of 1881-1884. Twenty six men went north on a program of scientific research and discovery. Three years later, after a series of mishaps, largely not of their making, only six came back alive. Since my first trip, during which I was able to visit the site where the party lived and worked for two of the three years, I have devoted myself to researching the details of the expedition with the intent of bringing it to the attention of the public through the production of a documentary film, *Abandoned in the Arctic*, and mounting an exhibit of the same name at the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, NH. Locating visual materials for the film, exhibit and catalog required exhaustive research at public and private archives and I decided to integrate this research into my thesis project for the Masters of Liberal Studies degree at The University of New Hampshire.

The expedition photographer George Rice, produced over one hundred images on large format dry glass plates. While the location or even existence of the plates is unknown, prints have miraculously survived, scattered among a variety of public and private collections. They provide one of the first documentary photographic records of a polar expedition. The present work brings together all of the photographs in a single catalog, giving the locations where the images can be found. They vary widely in the quality of the prints and their state of preservation. No single collection contains all of the photographs. One unique picture was found by a collector at a yard sale! In some cases I have distinguished images from the preliminary *Gulnare* expedition on which Rice also served as photographer, from the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition proper.

The introductory essay *Arctic Ambitions* attempts to put the photographs in the context of late nineteenth century expansionism and the history of arctic photography. The captions describe as clearly as possible the date and location of each exposure, extracts from the official diaries pertaining to the subject matter as well as comments of my own. An appendix provides details on the locations of the collections and archives where the photographs may be found. I hope that this work will provide a useful tool for others doing research on this important chapter in the story of American exploration.

Geoffrey E. Clark, M.D.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

# **ABSTRACT**

## **ARCTIC AMBITIONS**

### **THE PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY GEORGE RICE ON THE LADY FRANKLIN BAY EXPEDITION, 1880 – 1883**

**By**

**Geoffrey E. Clark, M.D.**

**University of New Hampshire**

**May, 2011**

The Lady Franklin Bay Expedition of 1881-1884 to the polar arctic was one of the first U.S. government sponsored foreign expeditions to incorporate the new medium of photography. The official photographer George W. Rice produced over one hundred images recording the progress of the project, including the landscape, scientific work, artifacts and indigenous people. These served multiple functions of acquisition, publicity and propaganda to promote the American program of expanding its sphere of influence beyond the borders of the United States. This thesis is the first complete catalog of the Rice photographs, drawn from all of the known collections, annotated and placed in the context of nineteenth century arctic photography, polar exploration and American ambition.



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# ARCTIC AMBITIONS

## The Photographs of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition of 1881-1884

*It is the manifest destiny of this country. We, the English-speaking race – no, we speak better than that – the American speaking race, with a country filled with a population made up by the mingling of all the best races of the earth, the very outcome of civilization – the time will come, in our children's generation if not in ours, when our northern boundary shall be at the North Pole, and our southern boundary so short that we can fence it in three weeks.*

General B.F. Butler, at the reception for the expedition survivors, Portsmouth, NH, August 4, 1884<sup>1</sup>

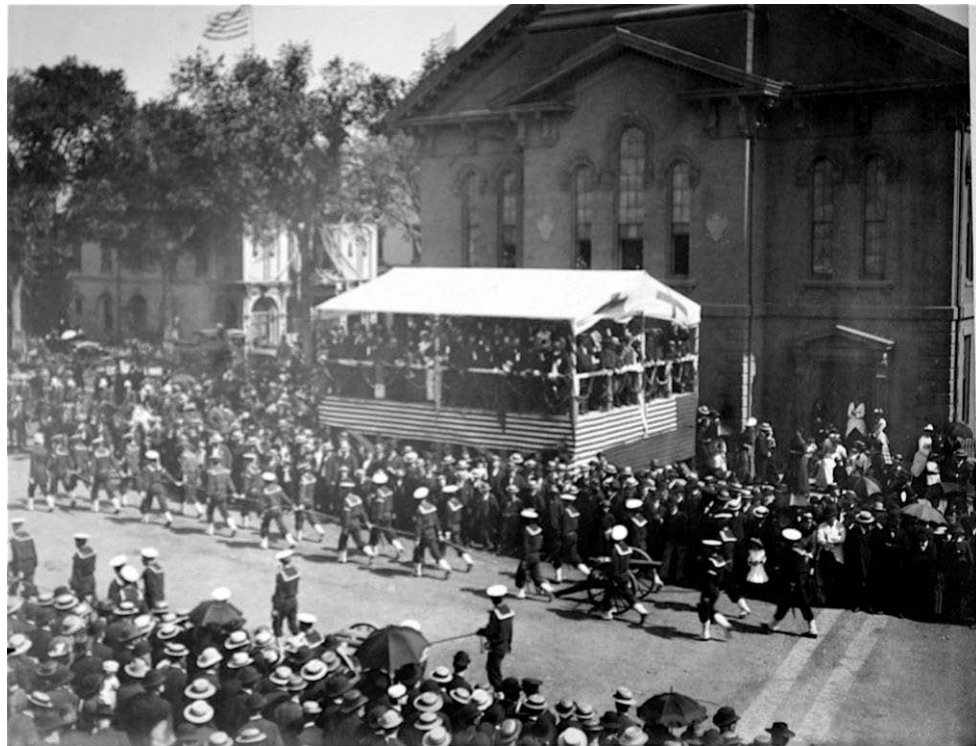


Fig. 1. Survivors at welcome home parade in Market Square, Portsmouth, N.H. August 4, 1884

On August 4, 1884 the city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire hosted the largest celebration in its history. Some twenty thousand people thronged the streets, and in the

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<sup>1</sup> W. A. McGinley, *Reception of Lieut. A.W. Greely, U.S.A. and his Comrades and of The Arctic Relief Expedition*, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1884, p. 55.

harbor the North Atlantic Squadron lay at anchor decked out in flags. At noon a parade of over two thousand commenced and passed a large reviewing stand set up in Market Square to honor six men seated at the front of the platform and the naval party that had brought them to Portsmouth. Later that evening, The Music Hall was packed to hear welcoming speeches from dignitaries that included the Secretary of the Navy and the governor. But the six men were too weak to attend the reception and were forced to remain in their quarters at the Portsmouth Navy Yard.

The honorees were the survivors of The Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, often called The Greely Expedition after its leader, Army Lieutenant Adolphus W. Greely. Over three years earlier he and twenty-five others had embarked on an ambitious expedition to set up a “polar colony” less than five hundred miles from the North Pole. Here they were to remain in isolation for two years conducting scientific observations around the clock and exploring the surrounding territory, much of which had never before been seen by white men. Another project, which was mentioned nowhere in the official orders, but was a high priority for the commanding officer, was to attempt to set the record for attaining the farthest north, if not to actually reach the Pole itself.

Greely and his men accomplished all they had set out to do, including besting the record for “Farthest North”, held by the British for over three hundred years. But at the end of the second year no ship returned to pick them up and they were forced to retreat south in open boats, bringing with them not only their scientific records and instruments, but also forty 8X10 glass plate negatives selected from the images made by expedition photographer George Rice. The retreat was a two-month ordeal in stormy waters and

drifting ice. At one point Greely offered to discard the records to lighten their load, but the party to a man insisted on carrying them even if it meant discarding other supplies. On reaching their destination at Cape Sabine they found neither a ship nor promised caches of rations and had to endure an arctic winter of misery and starvation. When finally rescued by the U.S. Navy on June 22, 1884, only seven remained alive, one of whom died on the way home.

Anticipating that no one might survive, Greely placed the records, instruments and plates in a cairn on a small islet where a passing ship would eventually find them, and indeed it was the Navy's discovery of the cairn that led to their timely rescue. That Greely took such pains to bring back the plates is a testament to the importance of photography as part of the expedition's work. In many ways it reflected the same concerns as earlier survey and exploratory expeditions in the western United States. George Rice's task was to record the progress of the expedition and its findings, including the landscape, artifacts and the indigenous people. Whether consciously or not photography served the multiple functions of acquisition, publicity and propaganda to promote the American project to expand its sphere of influence beyond the borders of the continental United States.

### **THE ARCTIC IN THE AMERICAN IMAGINATION AND EXPERIENCE**

In many ways, in the nineteenth century the Arctic had the same place in the American imagination as the Western Frontier as a mythic locale. The early explorations north of the United States by the British Navy were followed with interest in popular periodicals such as *Harpers Weekly* or *Frank Jones Illustrated Weekly*. The latter often

used illustrations and stories directly from *The Illustrated London News*. The mysterious loss of the Franklin expedition in 1845 created an incentive for American explorers to go north, starting with Elisha Kent Kane in 1850-1851 and 1853-1855. His accounts were widely read and his premature death in 1857 led to an outpouring of grief throughout the country such that the subsequent funeral train was not surpassed in size until the assassination of Lincoln.<sup>2</sup> His exploits were followed by those of Dr. Isaac Israel Hayes (1832 –1881), and Charles Francis Hall, who actually found remains from Franklin's party in his expedition of 1864-1869. This latter success earned him a subsidy from the US Congress for an attempt to reach the Pole in 1870, but he died under suspicious circumstances (later proved to be arsenic poisoning) in 1871 at a camp in Greenland just across the strait from the site of Greely's station on Ellesmere Island. All of these adventures and misadventures were widely reported to a fascinated public and created an American narrative of heroic arctic exploration that rivaled the British.

American enthusiasm for exploration was encouraged by a new sensationalism in the press, as exemplified by James Gordon Bennett, Jr. and *The New York Herald*. Bennett found that by supporting exploration he could create news to sell his papers. He sent reporters to far off lands, as was the case of Stanley to Africa in 1868-1871, or subsidized expeditions such as the disastrous arctic voyage of the *Jeanette* in an attempt to reach the pole 1879. This coincided with the closing of the American frontier and served as a psychological if not an actual means of continued expansionism. Argued historian Beau Riffenburgh, "Since continued expansion represented a means to achieve or maintain moral, racial, spiritual and physical supremacy, exploration thus became an

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<sup>2</sup> Russell A. Potter, *Arctic Spectacles: The Frozen North in Visual Culture, 1818-1875*, U. of Washington Press, Seattle, 2007. p. 117

instrument not only to justify imperial or nationalist political doctrine, but to embody the supposed collective cultural superiority of a nation.<sup>3</sup>

The exploitation of Arctic exploration was not limited to the print media. The same Edmund Beale who exhibited a panorama of a *Voyage to California and Return* in 1849 in New York City,<sup>4</sup> mounted the *Grand Illuminated History of American, English and Danish Exploration in Search of Sir John Franklin* in 1855, which toured the entire east coast. It had hardly started when news of Kane's return from his second expedition broke and the content of the panorama was modified to feature him as a national hero. After touring Europe the show return to the United States where it was exhibited for ten years. Many other panoramas of Hayes' exploits were created, and their venues were not limited to the east coast. *Dr. Kane's Arctic Voyages* with narration by members of Kane's crew toured as far west as Zanesville, Ohio in 1863, and another panorama was on view in Leavenworth, Kansas and Little Rock, Arkansas in 1860.<sup>5</sup>

The exotic wildness of the arctic became a subject for the fine arts as well and produced an entire genre of paintings. "The Arctic Sublime" became part of the Luminist School of painting popular in the mid nineteenth century.<sup>6</sup> The most iconic of these was the very large canvas *The North*, later titled *The Icebergs* by the prominent painter Frederick Church.

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<sup>3</sup> Beau Riffenburgh, *The Myth of the Explorer*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1994, p 2

<sup>4</sup> Martha A. Sandweiss, *Print the Legend: Photography and the American West*, Yale University Press, 2002, p. 61

<sup>5</sup> Potter, *Op. Cit.*, p. 218

<sup>6</sup> Chauncy C. Loomis, "The Arctic Sublime". In *Nature and the Victorian Imagination*, U.C. Knoeflmacher and G.B. Tennyson, U. of California Press, 1977



Fig. 2. *The Icebergs*, Frederick Church, 1861, Ft. Worth Museum of Fine Arts

He became fascinated with the arctic through his friendship with Isaac I Hayes, who on his explorations had made sketches, painting and some of the very first photographs of the Arctic, using the Calotype process.<sup>7</sup> Church set out on his own trip to the north in 1859, returned with numerous sketches of icebergs, and in the following year produced the painting which won him immense acclaim in both America and Britain. Initially devoid of any sign of human life, Church later added the remnant of a ship's mast, which heightened the impression of humans' helplessness in the face of overpowering nature. The painting was exhibited in dramatic venues analogous to those of the more plebian panoramas and was widely written up in the press.

### **WILLIAM BRADFORD AND ARCTIC PHOTOGRAPHY**

The Franklin Expedition actually took a Daguerreotype outfit with them, but aside from a poignant set of images of the crew taken before they left, none survive. In any

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<sup>7</sup> Wamsley, Douglas and William Barr, "Early Photographers of the Arctic", *Polar Record*, 32/183:295-96

case the process would have been exceedingly hard to use because of the extreme cold and the confined quarters of the ships, which would have exacerbated the toxicity of the chemicals required for the process. The Calotype process used by Hayes had the advantages of being a dry process that made a negative that could produce multiple prints, but it required very long exposures. His photographs were used to produce stereographic views and served as the basis for his book illustrations.

Arctic photography came into its own as the result of the efforts of William Bradford, a Luminist painter from New Bedford, Massachusetts.<sup>8</sup> A local contemporary and friend was Albert Bierstadt, the noted Luminist who made photographic images of the far West as well as monumental paintings. Bradford's *forte* was marine scenes and early in his career he became fascinated with the subject of ships in the ice and among icebergs. He began taking summer cruises to Newfoundland and Labrador to sketch scenes from which he produced dramatic oil paintings. On several occasions he had taken a photographer with him, but on May 26, 1869 he embarked on a much more ambitious project. Thanks to the patronage of a New York magnate he was able to charter the steamer *Panther*, and set out with two photographers, John L. Dunmore and George P. Critcherson, from the Boston studio of James Wallace Black. They used the cumbersome wet plate collodion process, but had the advantage of a fully equipped darkroom on board. Among the passengers were several other artists and the ubiquitous Dr. Hayes. In the course of the summer they cruised as far north as seventy five degrees along the coast of Greenland and came back with over four hundreds plates that depicted the landscape, Bradford's beloved icebergs and local inhabitants.

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<sup>8</sup> Richard C. Kugler, *William Bradford: Sailing Ships and Arctic Seas*, University of Washington Press, Seattle, 2003



The photographs helped ensure Bradford's artistic and financial success. Black immediately used the plates to produce lantern slides for dramatic shows, some narrated by Bradford himself. He exhibited paintings and photographic prints to great acclaim in New York, and, more importantly, in London. Bradford had undertaken the ambitious project of producing a magnificent 300-copy edition of *The Arctic Regions*, illustrated with one hundred and forty original albumin prints pasted into each copy.<sup>9</sup> When Queen Victoria saw a private exhibition of his oils and photographs at Windsor Castle, she subscribed for a copy as well as commissioning two paintings. This royal patronage produced the expected results. Subsequently, when the popularity of his marine subjects waned, he followed in Bierstadt's footsteps to paint and photograph in California, but with limited success. Returning east he made a good living until his death in 1892 by giving illustrated lectures on the arctic using the *Panther* cruise photographs. Bradford's reputation was sufficiently established that immediately after his return Greely made Rice's photographs available to Bradford for his "recitals".

### **THE HOWGATE PLAN: POLAR COLONIZATION**

As early as 1876 Captain Henry Howgate, second in command of the newly formed Army Signal Corps, began to promote a plan for "polar colonization" in the high arctic. It is unclear how or when he was "bitten by the arctic bug", but his plan was clearly inspired by the British expedition of 1875 under Captain George S. Nares, RN, which had wintered in Lady Franklin Bay Ellesmere Island, the northernmost in the

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<sup>9</sup> William Bradford, *The Arctic Regions: Illustrated with Photographs taken on an Art Expedition to Greenland*, London, 1873. Presented as part of an exhibition *Arctic Diary: Paintings and Photographs of William Bradford*, Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, Massachusetts, February 17 – May 5, 2002. An excellent discussion with both paintings and photographs is at [www.clarkart.edu/exhibitions/bradford/](http://www.clarkart.edu/exhibitions/bradford/).

archipelago above Canada just to the west of Greenland. Here Nares had discovered a seam of coal that could provide heat for a station and fuel for a steamer. Howgate began to lobby congress to fund the establishment of a permanent colony and a program of exploration. Adolphus Greely, stationed in Washington at the time with the Signal Corps, became enthralled by the project and joined Howgate as his *protégé*. Congress initially balked at providing funding, as the military establishment was opposed to diverting its resources. The tide turned when an International Polar Conference proposed that a consortium of nations set up a circumpolar ring of observatories to take simultaneous measurements for two years.

After an appropriation bill failed to pass in 1879, Howgate sent to congress a privately printed 143-page memorial marshalling all of his arguments and support from a large number of scientific bodies, including the Smithsonian Institution.<sup>10</sup> The contents are revealing. The ostensible reason for the establishment of the polar colony was to carry out scientific research, made more urgent by the prospect of being left out of the International Polar Conference. But Howgate's impetus had other roots: the quest to reach the North Pole became defined as a matter of national pride and accomplishment. By setting up a semi-permanent station that could be periodically re-supplied, the United States could maintain a presence and launch subsequent attempts at the Pole after the two years of research were completed.

Included in the publication were two excellent "Woodbury" process prints of photographs of the proposed station taken by Nares and used in his report.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Captain Henry Howgate, USA, *Polar Colonization: Memorial to congress, Privately printed, 1879.*

<sup>11</sup> G.S. Nares, *A Voyage to the Polar Sea*, Samson Low, Marston, Searle and Rivington, London, 1878

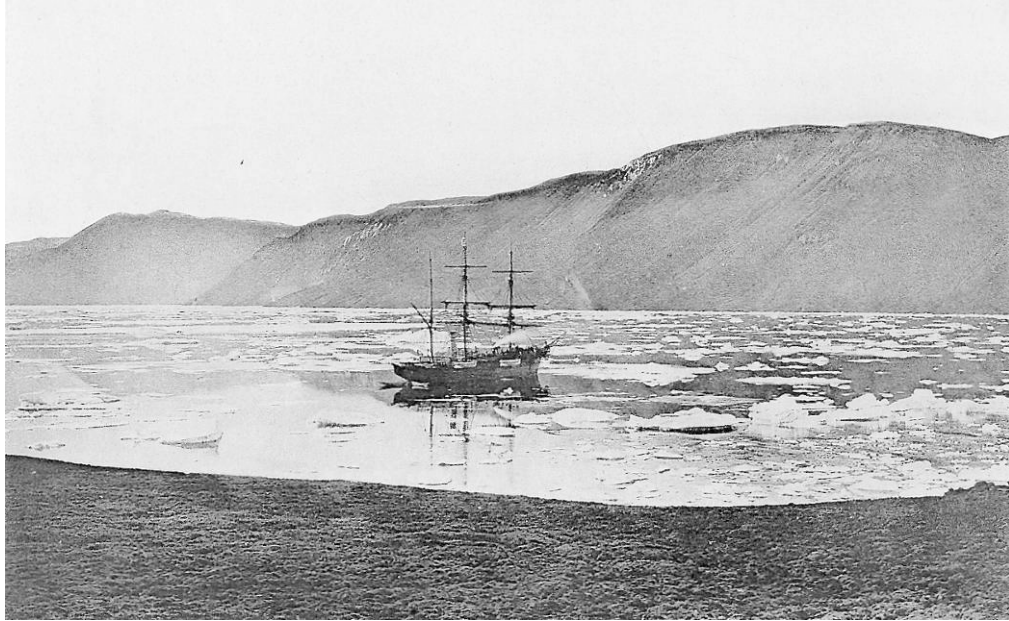


Fig. 3. Discovery Bay, summer. Site of the proposed Colony. From *Howgate's Polar Colonization; Memorial to Congress*, 1879, copied from Nares

These not only demonstrated the practicality of the scheme, but also that technology could document the work and popularize it. Howgate ended his petition with an appeal to the chauvinistic imperialism typical of that era:

Through the dim vista of vanished centuries the oar of colonizing Greek, the sword of conquering Rome have descended to the Anglo-Saxon as his peculiar appanage and possession, while the heart of Asia, the deserts of Africa and the mighty canyons of the West bear equal testimony with the ice bound seas that neither peaceful implement nor warlike weapon has been found too heavy for the brawny hand of the youngest scion of the English speaking race.<sup>12</sup>

Anticipating the approval of funding for a government project, Howgate had already sent a small scouting expedition to Greenland in the sixty-four foot schooner *Florence* to reconnoiter and obtain supplies. The crew of sixteen in number included Orray Sherman, Yale '77 as meteorologist and *photographer* along with a naturalist from

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<sup>12</sup> Howgate, *Op. Cit.*, p 143.

the Smithsonian.<sup>13</sup> The expedition report states that photographs were taken, but their whereabouts are unknown.

The captain was given a list of “materials” to obtain for the main party, which in addition to furs, sleds, dogs, etc. included ten Eskimos to serve as hunters and sled drivers. The naturalist was instructed to “make a thorough study of the ethnology of the country, securing as many crania of Esquimaux as practicable; procure skeletons also if they can be got.” Clearly, the values of the day assumed that the native people were material assets to be used while alive and studied when dead.

Howgate’s lobbying proved successful and Greely organized a party of military personnel, civilian scientists and photographer, George Rice. But when the Navy survey condemned the ship *Gulnare* that was to bring them north, Howgate, undeterred chartered the rotten ship himself and sent it north to Greenland without Greely.<sup>14</sup> The Navy’s assessment proved correct as the *Gulnare* almost sank and the program had to be delayed until 1881

### **ADOLPHUS GREELY: LEADER, EXPLORER AND SCIENTIST**

At least on paper, Lieutenant Adolphus W. Greely was the ideal candidate to lead a party of men to do scientific work in a hostile environment. He enlisted as a private to fight in the Civil War at the age of 17, fought in most of the major battles and was wounded three times. Promoted to Brevet Major by the end of the war, he elected to

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<sup>13</sup> Howgate, H.W., Ed., *The Cruise of the Florence or Extracts from the Journal of the Preliminary Arctic Expedition of 1877-1878*, James J. Chapman, Washington, D.C., 1879

<sup>14</sup> While Howgate insisted that he was able to charter and equip the *Gulnare* because of a legacy, he actually was embezzling huge sums from the government as the disbursing officer for the Signal Corps. This came to light while Greely was in the arctic.

become a professional soldier in the Signal Corps, which established telegraph lines throughout the West, and then to started the Weather Bureau in Washington, which used reports telegraphed in from around the country. For the better part of a decade he worked in the roughest parts of the western frontier, and taught himself all about electricity, communications and meteorology. There is no record of his being actively involved with photography, though he had his photograph taken several times during the war and, he was what we would call today a “technology nerd”.



Fig.4, A.W. Greely as Civil War Sergeant,  
Photo courtesy of Jane Greely

Greely probably came in contact with the survey crews that were documenting the West. Later in life he was responsible for the preservation and cataloging of the Army’s collection of Civil War photographs by Mathew Brady.

To the end of his days he insisted that the polar expedition was primarily a scientific mission and “no Pole seeking adventure”.<sup>15</sup> Yet his personal correspondence with his wife makes it clear that he believed he could “make his mark” by attaining the farthest north record. In fact she made him a lightweight flag to be taken as part of the effort, and Greely’s first words when he was rescued were “Did what I came to do. Beat the best record.” Thus Greely can be seen, among other things, as a protagonist in the drama of American expansionism and world domination.

### **GEORGE RICE, PHOTOGRAPHER AND ADVENTURER**

George Rice was born near Baddeck, Nova Scotia in 1855 the son of a farmer. His uncle Moses Rice was a photographer who worked in the studio of George Gardner, in Washington, D.C. Gardner was a renowned photographer during the Civil War who produced the 100 image *Sketchbook of the Civil War*, and later traveled extensively in the West for the Kansas and Pacific Railroad to make the album *Westward the Course of Empire Takes its Way*, in which he documented both the construction of the railroad and the indigenous Native Americans.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> *New York Times*, January 6, 1924; P. 19,

<sup>16</sup> Sandweiss, *Op. Cit.* pp. 40, 162, 318. Gardner was the only photographer allowed to make images of the Lincoln assassination conspirators, and took the *Portrait of Lewis Payne* discussed by Roland Barthes in *Camera Lucida*, Hill and Wang, New York, 1982, p. 95.



Fig. 5. George Rice, Moses Rice Studio, 1881  
NARA

How George Rice came to be the expedition photographer is unclear, but it is easy to imagine him coming to Washington to apprentice with his uncle, who by that time had left Gardner and started his own studio. It is unlikely that he intended to make photography his life's work, as he studied law at The Columbia Institute for a year and brought his law books with him on the expedition. Rather he looked on the trip as an adventure before he settled down.<sup>17</sup> Unlike Greely, who, as a military officer, was forced to withdraw from the *Gulnare* expedition when the government withdrew its support, Rice elected to go as the official photographer. He took a number of photographs during his time in Greenland that survive.

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<sup>17</sup> Lotz, James, *Canada's Forgotten Arctic Hero: George Rice and the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, 1881-1884*, Breton Books

## THE PHOTOGRAPHS

By the time the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition was organized the dry plate system of photography was available. This eliminated the necessity of preparing, exposing and developing the plate when it was still moist – a virtually impossible task in the arctic, unless one took the picture on or near a ship with a darkroom aboard that could be kept above freezing. That Rice did use the dry plate method can be inferred from the fact that a number of plates intended for the *Gulnare* were available a year later, which would be impossible were they to be used in the wet collodion process. Presumably the plates were the standard 8 by 10 inch size, as all prints made from them are of these dimensions. This meant that Rice had to cope with the difficulties of using very bulky and heavy equipment which made it very difficult to obtain pictures far out in the field.

Prints of the Rice photographs can be found in at least six collections: three locations in the National Archives, The Library of Congress, The Naval Historical Institute in Washington, The Explorers Club in New York, The Rauner Special Collections Library at Dartmouth, the Signal Corps Museum at Fort Monmouth, NJ and The Army Military History Institute, Carlisle, PA.



Fig. 6. Greely Relief Expedition of 1884; photo taken by Ensign Harlow in Greenland (AMHI)



The latter has an album donated by Greely with captions written in his own hand. None of the collections is complete, and one of the objectives of my project is to compile a complete catalog of all of the photographs, which number over one hundred. The fate of the glass plates is unknown. They initially would have been in at least four groups: the photographs from the preliminary *Gulnare* Expedition, pictures taken during the trip up to deliver the party in the *Proteus*, which were sent back with the ship, forty plates selected by Rice to take with them on their retreat, and the remainder that were packed up and left at Fort Conger, where they were found and recovered by Robert Peary.

Greely himself had some proprietary interest in them. In one of his last letters to his wife Henrietta, written when he thought he would not survive, he tells her that she may be able to support herself by selling hand tinted prints. And he took the initiative to loan the plates to Bradford soon after his return for the production of lantern slides. But the plates themselves were government property and presumably were held by the Signal Corps. Hopefully they will eventually surface.

### **THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF THE EXPEDITION**

The photographs are arranged in general chronologic order or according to subject matter. In those cases where an individual photograph can be found in more than one collection I have attempted to obtain the best example and include quotations or comments which inform the subject matter. While researching and documenting George W. Rice's photographs I had the unique opportunity to transcribe the official diaries written by Rice and his assistant H.S. Gardiner. Every member of the expedition was required to keep an official diary for the two years that the party was at Fort Conger.

Most of the men also kept diaries for their more personal observations. Gardiner's has survived while Rice's has not, as he requested in his will that his personal diary be burned. Any details they held concerning his photo technique and motivation have been lost. Although the photos most certainly speak for themselves, the voices of the men provide useful additional information and context. The excerpts from the diaries are as written including the grammar and spelling. Whenever possible I use Rice's comments to try and place each photo in its geographical location and time. In other cases I use quotations from Private H. S. Gardiner's diary, as he was detailed to become Rice's assistant and became sufficiently proficient to take pictures when Rice was indisposed. Gardiner's official and personal diaries reveal some of the circumstances in which the images were obtained including, the acerbic observation that the commanding officer "is in every picture that has been made I think".<sup>18</sup> In the event there were no comments from Rice or Gardiner I used quotes from the formal and popular accounts written by Adolphus W. Greely.

### **PUTTING THE PHOTOGRAPHS TO USE**

Since a practical method for publishing photographs had not yet been developed, Rice's images became the basis for the illustrations in the official report, Greely's popular account and the illustrated newspapers. Usually the images were faithful reproductions from the negatives but the engraving process left room for manipulation. A scene at Fort Conger was enlivened by an addition of a returning dog team (Fig.7, 8)

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<sup>18</sup> H.S. Gardiner Private Journal 1882



Fig. 7. Ft. Conger , Courtesy LOC

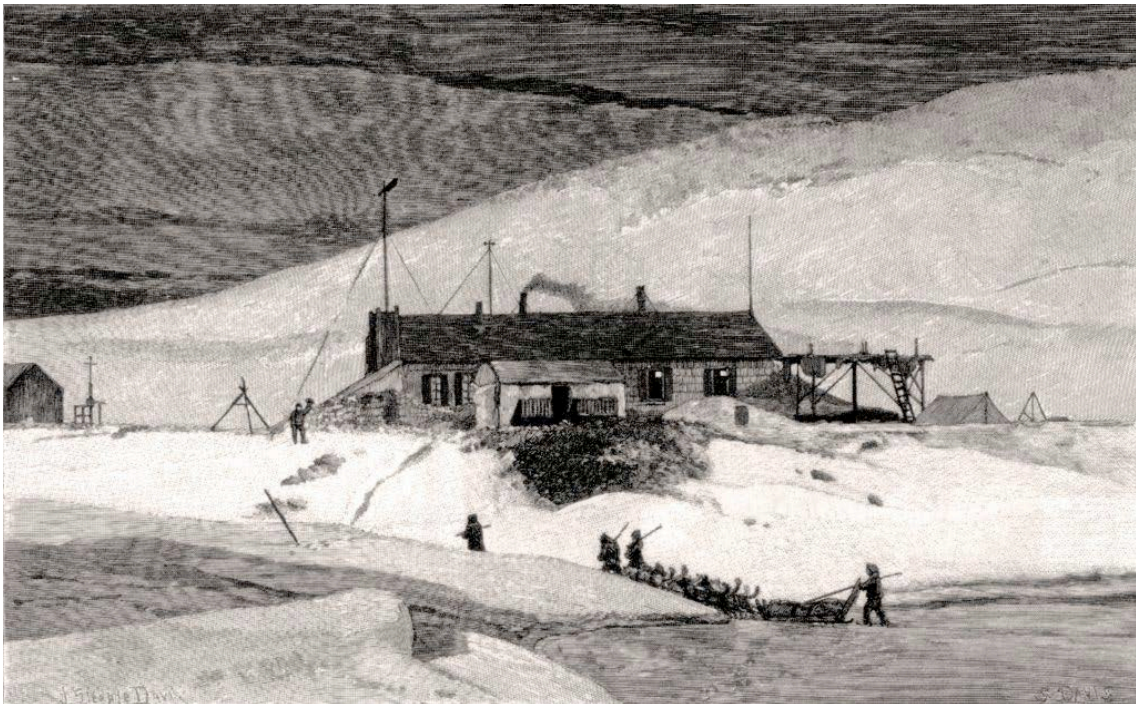


Fig. 8. Ft. Conger engraving from "*Three Years of Arctic Service*" by A.W. Greely 1886

and in a manipulation akin to today's "PhotoShop"; the group photo taken in Moses Rice's studio was modified to eliminate members who did not ultimately go on the trip and others who did (Fig.9, 10).

Fig.9.



Fig. 10.



In other cases the photographs became the inspirations for an entirely different scene (Fig.11, 12), or were used to create a work in a different medium.



Fig. 11. . Split berg Breakwater point, Lady Franklin Bay- June 1882  
Courtesy The Explorers Club

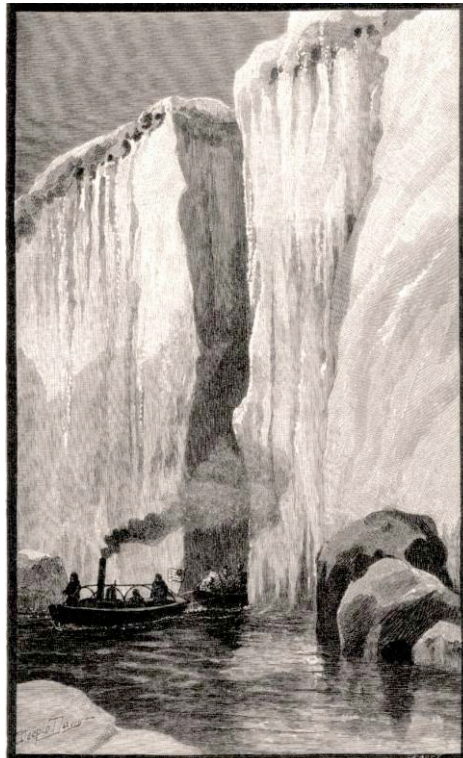


Fig. 12. Steam launch *Lady Greely* navigates split berg in 1883, from *Three Years of Arctic Service* by A.W, Greely, 1886

## CHAPTER I

### PRELIMINARY PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE *GULNARE* EXPEDITION OF 1880

Only ten photographs from the *Gulnare* Expedition are clearly attributed to Rice from the Rauner Special Collections Library at Dartmouth. They comprise several categories; the Greenland harbors and landscapes, “ethnographic” images of the native Greenlanders (all females) and a number of scenic ocean images, some with and some without human figures to provide scale. Unfortunately we have no diaries of Rice from this voyage and his personal diary from the subsequent expedition was burned after his death. Thus we have little direct knowledge of any esthetic, creative impulses he may have had in addition to his mission of making a documentary record. Perhaps the closest he came to making a distinction between the esthetic and practical qualities of his work was in a comment he made about some of the views he takes from the *Proteus* on the voyage north, which he noted were of poor quality because of the fog and the motion of the ship, but were “fine for geographical purposes”.

In these early images there are a number of scenes which evoke those taken on the earlier Bradford voyage. Several images found in the Greely expedition collections probably come from the earlier work. The most obvious is the second of two scenes showing coal being mined in Greenland, which is clearly at the same location in Kidliset. Others such as scenes of ice floes stranded in the shore are very similar. In any case Rice’s photographs from the preliminary voyage encompass most of the categories he would take a year later.

***Gulnare* in St. John's Harbor — July 1880**

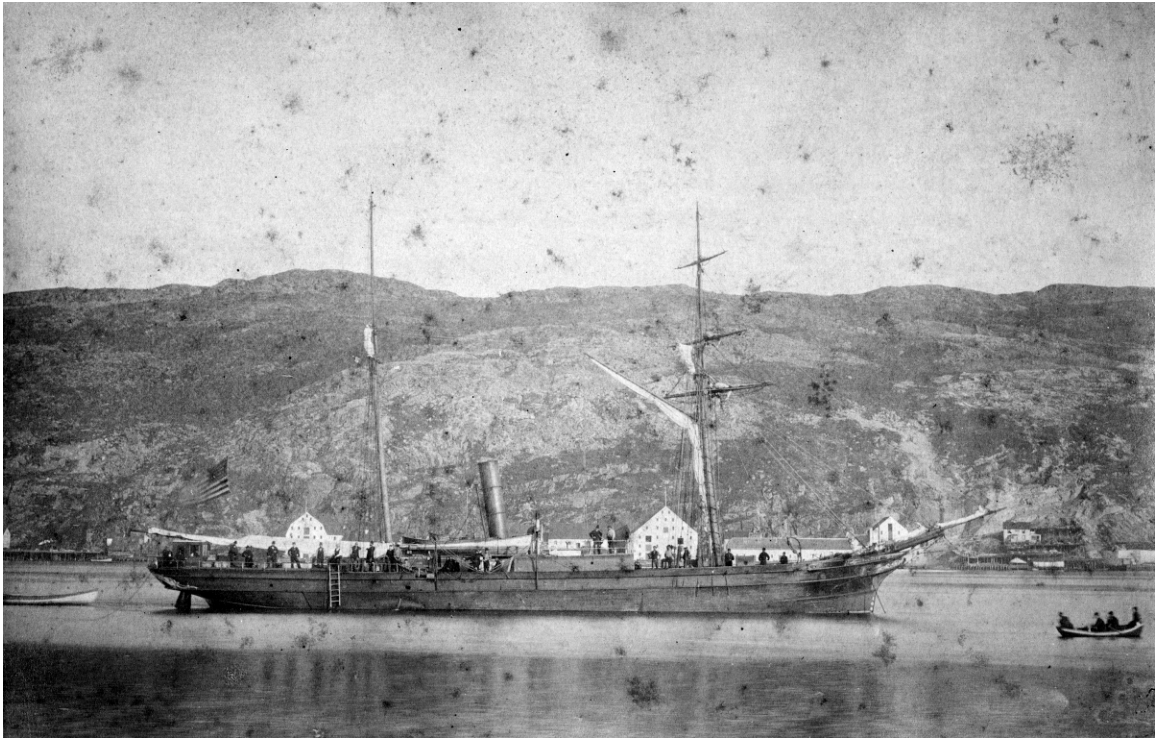


Plate 1., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library Dartmouth College

*When I last wrote to you we were at St. John's, N.F...At last, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July, about 4 o'clock, a.m., we weighed anchor and steamed out to sea. We had rain in the morning and a dense fog all day, which prevented our taking an observation. Our course was E., NE., and we made good time; about ten knots an hour.*

Narrative of Henry Clay, January 1881, *Kansas City Review of Science and Industry*, Vol. 4

***Gulnare* at Godhaven Harbor 1880**



Plate 2., Courtesy The Explorers Club, EC-AO



## Godhavn, Greenland — August 1880



Plate 3., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library Dartmouth College

*On Saturday, August 8, at 5:15 P.M., we dropped anchor in the harbor of Godhaven. It is a small harbor, about 600 yards long by 400 yards wide, with a very narrow entrance, which cannot be seen until you are almost on it. It is however, very safe and secure, and we are glad to rest after our stormy passage.*

Narrative of Secretary Henry Clay, January 1881 *Kansas City Review of Science and Industry*, Vol. 4

**Eskimo Kayakers in Smith Sound off the coast of Disco —1880**

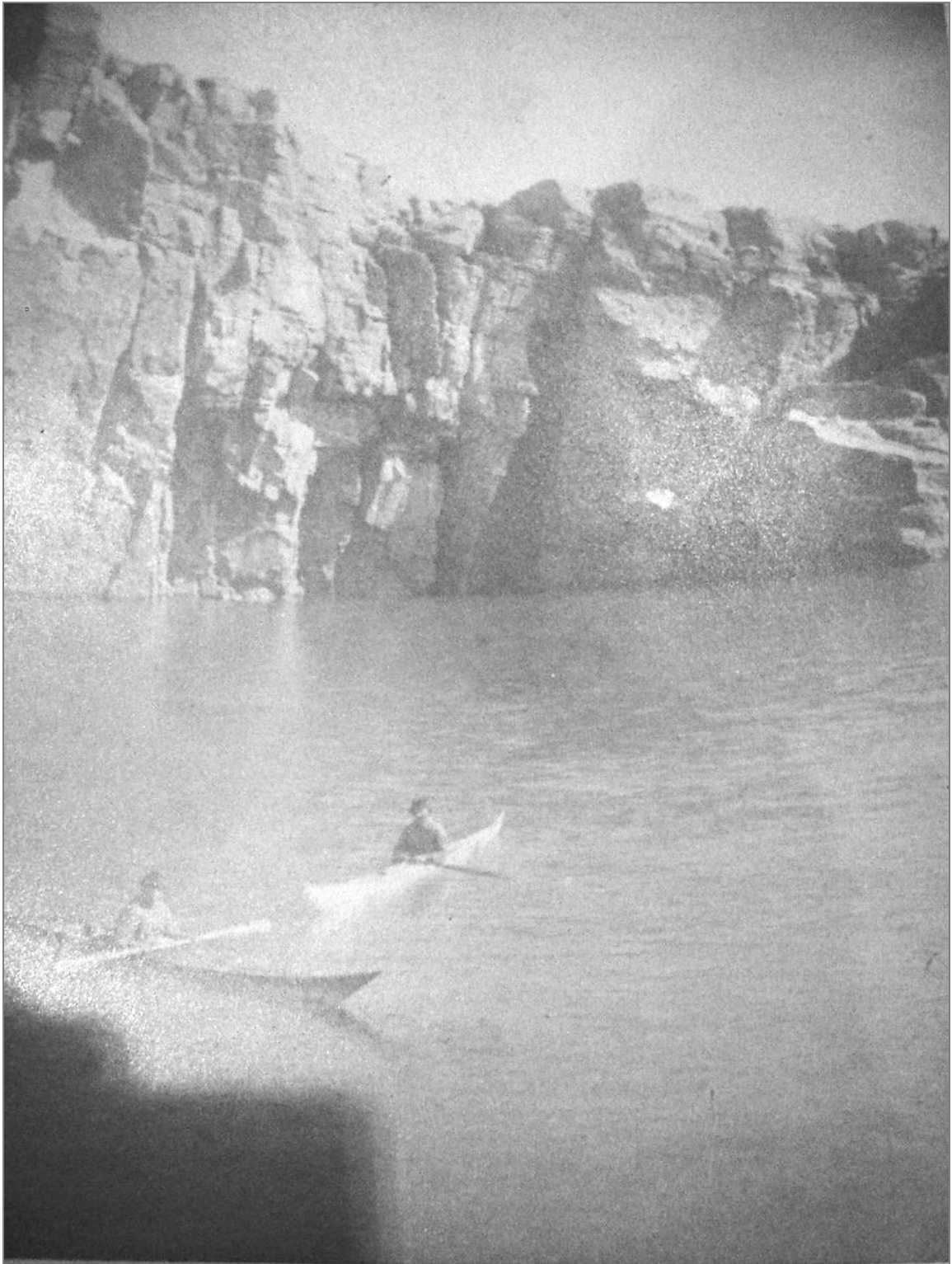


Plate 4., Courtesy Army Military History Institute, Carlisle PA.

(See Greely's , *"Three years of Arctic Service"*, Vol. I, P.1 (See preface about Rice photos)



**Eskimo kayaks and skin boats, Disco Greenland— August 1880**

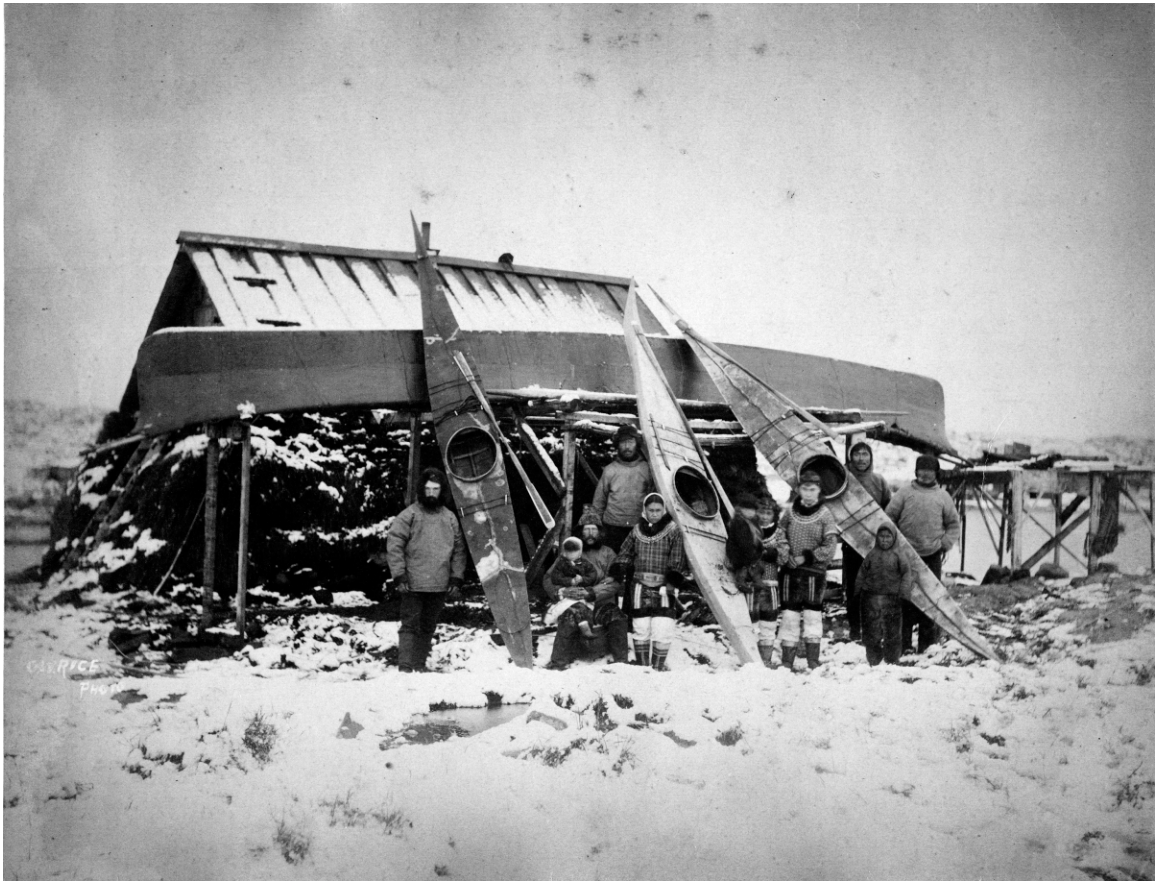


Plate 5., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library, Dartmouth College

**Eskimo maidens on Disco Greenland with *Gulnare* in background — 1880**



Plate 6., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library Dartmouth College

*Men and women alike are clothed with jacket and trousers. The jacket is a hooded jumper with openings only for face and hands. The hood is enlarged when necessary so as to admit of an infant being carried inside against the woman's back. The women's trousers are very narrow and extend barely from the hips to the knees, so that a bit of white chemise is sometimes seen at the waist, and a portion of the naked thigh above the knee. Formerly, the women's jumper had two flaps, and reached far below the hips, but fashion has changed all that. The outer clothing was once entirely of sealskin, but now the jumper is frequently of cotton cloth. The women's boots of variegated white, red and purple leather, are elaborately ornamented with fancy seams. Boots, trousers and jumpers are sometimes trimmed with fancy fur... The Eskimo boot is of smooth, well tanned, seal skin which resists occasional submersion in water. The soles projecting at heel and toe are skillfully curved up and united to the uppers, in such a manner that no seam is found on a bearing surface.*

Greely, Adolphus W., *Three Years of Arctic Service, Vol. I*, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885



**Gulnare party mining coal at Kidlisset, Greenland—August 1880**



Plate 7., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library Dartmouth College

*We waited until Friday, the 27<sup>th</sup>, when at 4 A.M., we again made the attempt to reach the mine, this time with success. The coal is found in the face of a bluff about sixty feet high, which rises abruptly from the beach. The vein of coal is about two feet thick, and extends for some distance along the face of the bluff, forty feet from the base. The coal is of an inferior quality, but burns well in our furnaces and stoves. It does not give us as much heat as bituminous coal, and burns out much quicker, but still is much better than no coal at all...As soon as we dropped anchor we landed a party of men and set them to mining. By supper time we had landed on board about eighteen tons,—a pretty good days work.*

Narrative of Secretary Henry Clay, January 1881, *Kansas City Review of Science and Industry*, Vol. 4

***Gulnare* party mining coal at Kidlisset, Greenland #2—August 1880**



Plate 8., Courtesy Army Military History Institute, Carlisle PA.

***Gulnare* navigates icebergs off Greenland coast—August 1880**



Plate 9., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library Dartmouth College



**Icebergs off Greenland —1880**



Plate 10., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library Dartmouth College



**Greenland icebergs at 10 p.m. — 1880**



Plate 11., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library Dartmouth College

(signed left edge)

## Icebergs off Kidlisset, Greenland —August 1880



Plate 12., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library, Dartmouth College

(signed bottom left on berg)

*On Monday, August 23, we landed stores for Dr. Pavy and myself — everything to make us comfortable — provisions, clothing, cooking utensils, etc., and besides a great many books and other reading matter. After landing our stores we left Rittenbenk for the coal mine of Kidlisset, about 40 miles distant. We dropped anchor that night about 10:30 in a small exposed bay, Three miles north of Sakkak. The bay is very shallow, and we came near running aground. Sakkak, a small settlement, is situated on the peninsula of Nomsoak, part of the mainland of Greenland. It is separated from Disco Island by Waigat Strait, about 16 miles wide.*

*Besides, the icebergs were a constant source of danger. The straits were full of them, and there were several large ones in our immediate vicinity. We had narrow escapes from these, as they were born towards us by the currents or the tide. Several of them came in contact with us, and one of them carried away our anchor. Altogether they were not agreeable companions, and we were not solicitous of forming an intimate acquaintance with them.*

*The next day, the 25<sup>th</sup>, we made another start for the coal mine, but the sea was still too rough for us to land, so we put into a small bay where we anchored Monday night.*

Narrative of Secretary Henry Clay, January 1881, *Kansas City Review of Science and Industry*, Vol. 4,

**Kidliset Greenland —Curious Formations of Ice — August 1880**



Plate 13., Courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library Dartmouth College

(Signed middle left side)



**Ice near shore. Possibly *Gulnare* Expedition, 1880**



Plate 14., Courtesy The Explorers Club, EC-AO

**Ice near shore 2. Possibly *Gulnare* Expedition 1880.**



Plate 15., Courtesy The Explorers Club

THE EXPEDITION OF 1881  
FROM ST. JOHNS TO DISCOVERY HARBOR.

Most of the pictures taken en route to Discovery Harbor were of well known landmarks “for geographical use”. Before photography became generally available it was customary for a ship’s captain or other crew members to make sketches of geographical features to supplement the often incomplete charts of the time.

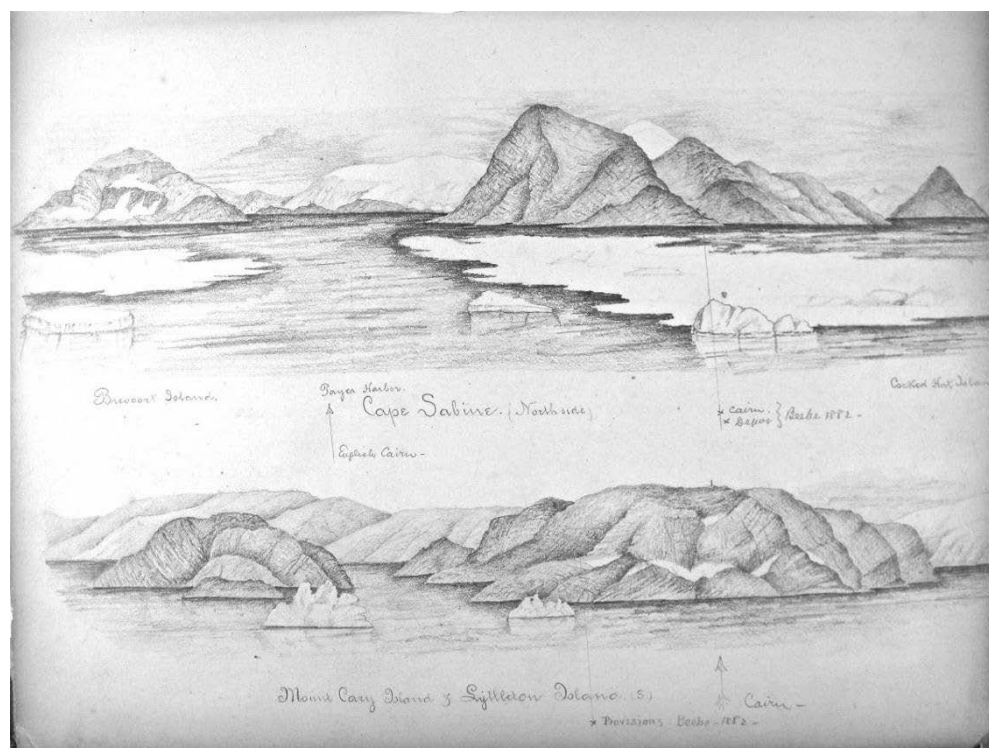
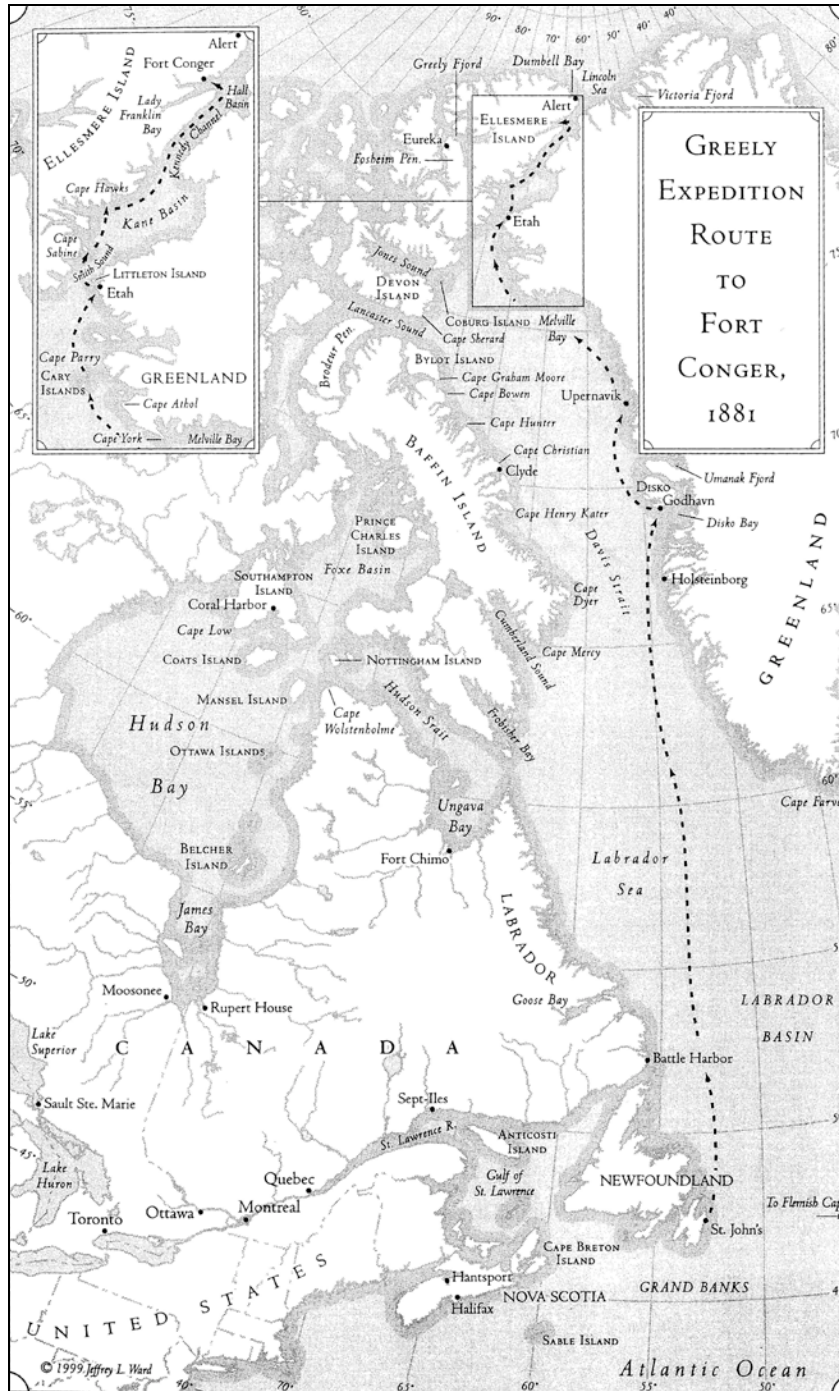


Fig.13 Sketch of Cape Sabine and Littleton Island by Pvt. Beebe of the *Neptune*, 1882 Courtesy NARA II.

### Map 1: Route Of Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, 1881



Map 1. Used with permission from *Ghosts of Cape Sabine*



***Proteus* (right) at dock in St. Johns, Newfoundland — July 7, 1881**



Plate 16., Courtesy NHI

*This morning the freight for the expedition that arrived per Hibernia was brought on board the Proteus and every preparation was made for a start—at noon, Capt. Pike gave the orders to “get under way”— at about 12:30 we move from our anchorage and amid cheers and the waving of handkerchiefs from the shore, steam slowly through the narrows. Considerable interest is taken in our departure and it is with feelings of regret we gaze for the last time for many days upon that most interesting picture of society and civilized life represented by a group of gaily dressed ladies who stand on Signal Hill and kindly waved us goodbye.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 1.] July 7, 1881*



***Proteus at Disco Island, Godhavn Harbor — July 19, 1881***



Plate 17., Courtesy LOC

signed lower right

*I instantly recognized the conformation of the land from my recollection of my trip on the Gulnare last year and was able to direct the way to the Harbor of Godhavn which we soon reached and dropped anchor about 10 p.m. The sun was still up and the little basin-like harbor looked very peaceful and inviting as we steamed into it.. Dr. Pavy and Henry Clay who will be picked up here are at Rittenbank, distant about 70 miles. We will leave here in a few days for Rittenbank and will then precede to Upernavik, our last stopping place until our destination is reached. From information Inspector Smith gives us, we are to infer that our chances of getting through the ice this year are very good. The winter in Greenland has been very mild and reports from the northern stations state navigation clear of ice.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 14 ], July 16, 1881*

*“I make several negatives today – photograph the Proteus and Godhavn Harbor.”*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.17 ] July 19, 1881*

***Proteus* at Disco Island, Godhavn Harbor — July 1881**



Plate 18., Courtesy NARA

signed lower right

*Foggy and very disagreeable to be on deck. The fog lifted this P.M. and showed us the highlands of Disco which rose to the height of 3,000 feet close on our starboard side. About 9 P.M. Ship anchored in the harbor at "Disco" Greenland, having been piloted by Jewell & Rice who were here last year, aboard the "Gulnare". The settlement near the entrance to the harbor can not be seen from any distance outside, and it was only with many misgivings that Cap't. Pike gave the order to steam into the narrow passage indicated by our Pilots. Some of the men having begged some powder, they loaded the small cannon on top gallant fore castle and fired a salute, which was answered from the settlement, which is supplied with a small battery. Our ship was soon boarded by the Gov'r. and several of the chief citizens, who gave a warm welcome to Lt. Greely. As soon as the vessel cast anchor it was surrounded by many of the "Eskimos" who had come off from the shore in their small boats, (kayak)...All the natives who came aboard the ship had various articles to "Troche" or barter. It was mostly sealskin goods such as coats, pantaloons, gloves, boots, slipper cuffs of "Eiderdown", muffs made of Eider down and the breast feathers of other birds. Miniature "Kayaks", Eskimo sledges etc. Quite a quantity of these items were bought by the men, for such articles of clothing as they had no need of, and also hard bread and some meat. The natives however want too much for their wares, and we have been advised by the Gov'nr. to await until we arrive at Upernivik, a trading post farther to the north. Common jewelry is a discount here and the best articles to trade with are bright colored handkerchiefs and thick goods.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary 1881 [ P. 6-7] Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> 1881*



## Governor's family at Godhavn, Greenland — July 1881



Plate 19., Courtesy NARA (with Lt. Kislingbury in rt. foreground)

*I make several negatives today – photograph the Proteus and Godhavn harbor – I also make a group of the Governor's family and Mrs. Smith and her governess. They are very much pleased to have the opportunity of being photographed and dress themselves for the occasion with great care. Miss Smith and her companion looked particularly charming in the bright lively colors of the Danish costume of the peasant girl— at least they look very charming to someone who does not expect to see another female in a civilized costume for two years.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 17] July 19, 1881*

## Rittenbenk, Greenland— July 1881



Plate 20., Courtesy LOC

signed lower rt.

*Left Godhaven, Disco Island at 1am., arrived at "Rittenbenk", 60 miles to the north of Godhaven at 10.30 am. having been piloted up the coast by an Eskimo. The programme here was substantially the same at Godhaven. The natives at this place seemed much poorer than at Disco and there was not much choice in trading, they bringing very few articles of barter aboard the ship.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary 1881 [ P.13] Thursday, July 21, 1881*

**Steamer *Proteus* anchored in fog off Disco Island, Dr. Pavy in rowboat — July 1881**



Plate 21., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower right)

*Busy today getting supplies of dog food on board and hurrying our departure from this place for Upernavik. Mr. Clay who has been in Greenland since the Gulnare left last year, joined our ship at this place, as Signal Service Assistant (Dr.Pavy, hearing of the arrival of our ship at Disco hurried to that place to join the Expedition, and contracted for us as surgeon, U.S.A.) left Rittenbenk at 4 P.M. With the intention of going to Upernavik, 263 miles distant, passed the settlement of "Sakkak", at 5 P.M. entered Baffin Bay at 7 P.M.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary [ P. 14] Friday, July 22, 1881*



**Dr. Pavy (in white coat) and engineer from *Proteus*— Disco Island, Summer 1881**



Plate 22., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower right)

*Proteus* can just barely be seen in middle right portion of image (in harbor) below horizon. (GEC)

## Upernavik, Greenland — July 1881

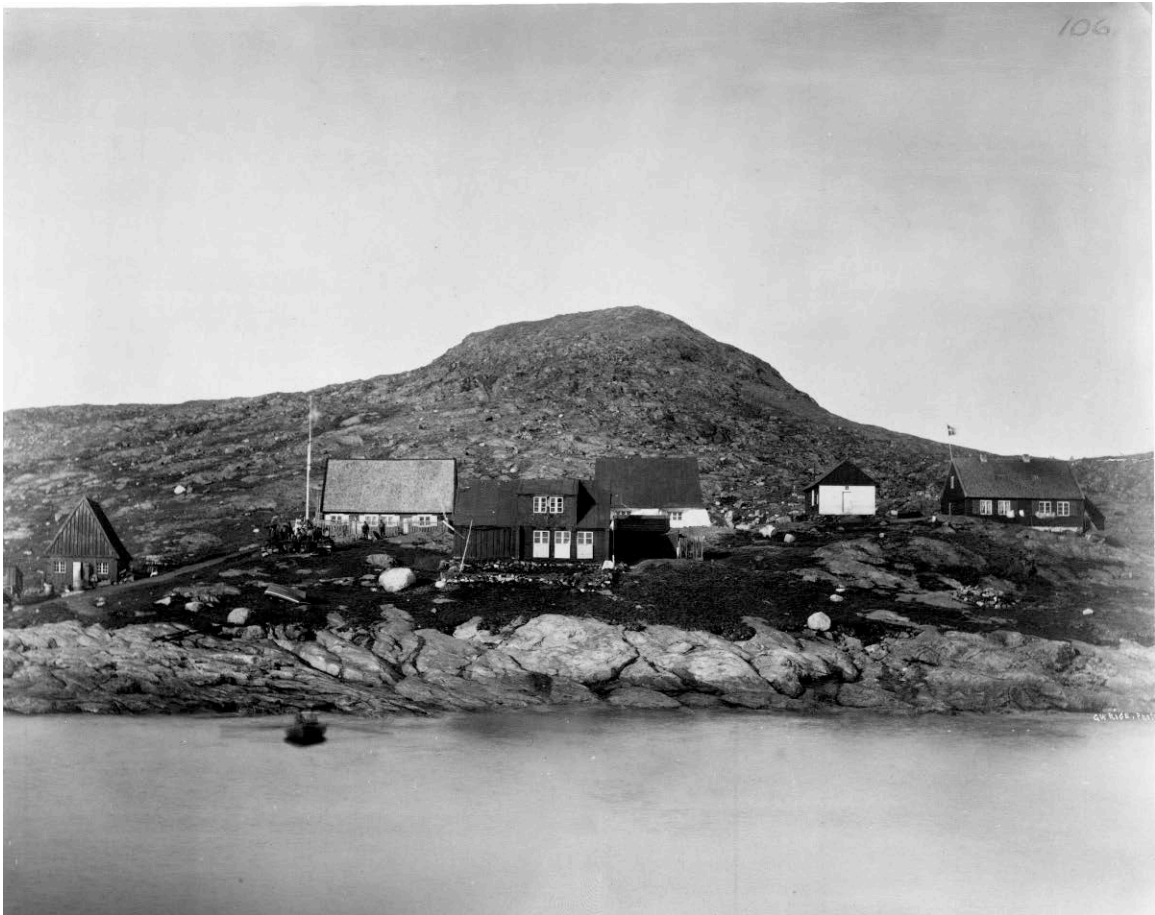


Plate 23., Courtesy LOC

( Signed middle right side)

*Arrived at Upernavik this morning at 5:30. The Latitude of this place is 72° 48' N. It resembles the other Danish settlements we have visited.. Consists of the residence of the Governor, the storehouse, Coopers shop, Smithy and the Inuit huts of the Esquimaux population. Gen. Elberg has received us very graciously and expressed his willingness to aid the expedition all he can. The Inspectors of North Greenland when we were at Disco is also here temporarily on his tour of inspection. We shall take on more dogs here also skins and skin clothing.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 21] Sunday July 24, 1881*

It appears the photo has been touched up; see black line around roof of second building from left. Also, note small boat being rowed out to *Proteus* or *Lady Greely*, from which point photo may have been taken

(GEC)

**Pvt. Charles B. Henry\* (leaning in doorway), Upernavik Greenland — July 1881**



Plate 24., Courtesy NARA

*Fortunately for the interests of the expedition, Inspector Smith was again met with at Upernivik, and it was through his marked interest and kindly influence that the service of the natives and so good a stock of all needed articles were secured...Ten dogs, additional dog food, sledge fittings, dog harnesses, and seal skins were bought from Mr. Elberg, at Upernivik. The dogs so purchased proved to be diseased, and through contagion with them two-thirds of our draught animals eventually died.*

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1, [P. 3] *Saturday, July, 24<sup>th</sup>, 1881*, Washington Government Printing Office, 1888

\*Former embezzler Charles Henry Buck, who enlisted under the assumed name, Private Charles Henry, was executed at Camp Clay on June 6, 1884 for stealing food during the last, dire days of the LFB expedition. (GEC)



**Proven, Greenland—1881**



Plate 25., Courtesy of NARA

Proven, Greenland — July 26, 1881



Plate 26., Courtesy Explorers Club

(signed left side middle)

*A party (Lt. Lockwood, Gov. Elberg of U, [Upernavik] Cross, Linn and myself) started this morning for Proven to procure two Esquimaux to accompany the expedition as dog drivers and hunters. The distance is about 50 miles. We took the inside passage through the islands as the sea was too rough to go outside. Our conveyance was the little steam launch "Lady Greely". The scenery in the channels and fiords through which we passed was most remarkable and in the same grand and impressive scale as that of the Waigat (Strait). Some of the passages were so narrow that at first sight it appeared impossible to get through them. But a nearer approach proved them to be as deep as mid ocean; the walls of the adamantine cliffs descend perpendicular to a great depth. Nothing but rock appears and that is evidently of volcanic formation. Occasionally a little carpeting of beautiful green moss covers the evidence of nature's convulsions and is the only representative of the vegetable kingdom that we can see. We are at Proven at 9:30 p.m.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 22] July 26, 1881*



**G.W. Rice and Eskimo women in Proven Greenland— July 1881**

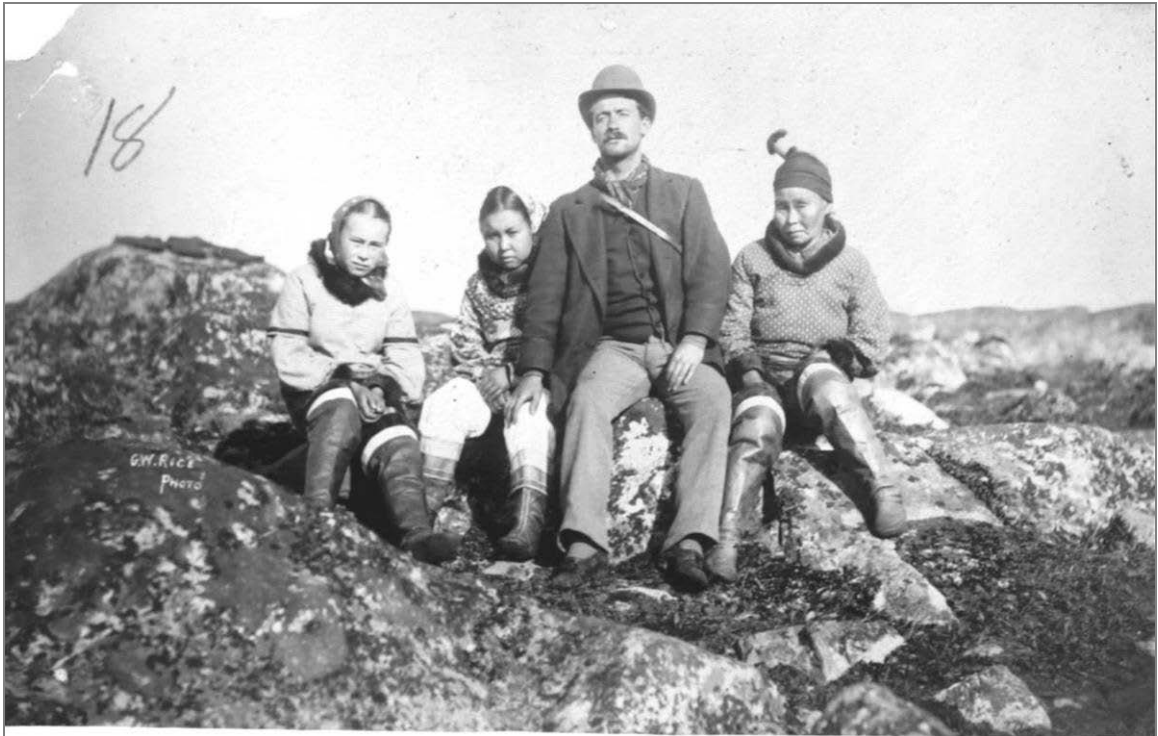


Plate 27., Courtesy AMHI

(signed left middle)

*“Sergeant Rice accompanied the party to Proven and made several negatives at that point.”*

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1, [ P. 3] Washington Government Printing Office, 1888

H. S. Gardiner may have taken this photo. Rice spent time at Proven in 1880 while an unofficial member of the Howgate, *Gulnare* expedition — it appears Rice was familiar with the Eskimo.

GEC

**Lt. Lockwood and Eskimo with Kayaks, Proven Greenland — July 1881**



Plate 28., Courtesy LOC

signed lower right

*Lieutenant Lockwood returned on the 28<sup>th</sup> from Proven, bringing back, for service with the expedition, two Eskimo, Jens Edward and Frederick Thorlip Christiansen. They were formally contracted with the same day. He killed one hundred and twenty seven guillemot during his trip. He also succeeded in securing a considerable quantity of skin clothing, part of which, though second hand, was very serviceable. Sergeant Rice accompanied the party to Proven and made several negatives at that point.*

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1, [P. 3] Washington Government Printing Office, 1888

**Proven Greenland, native children with kayaks— July 27, 1881**



Plate 29., Courtesy Explorers Club

signed lower right

**Inuit Children with kayaks, Proven Greenland — 1881**



Plate 30., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower left)

Photo is badly damaged by light.

(GEC)



## Eskimo women, Proven Greenland— July 1881



Plate 31., Courtesy Explorers Club

(signed rt. side)

*The costume of the Esquimaux women is so nearly like that of the Inuit that at first sight it is not easy to distinguish the two, although the former make theirs up in a much more elaborate manner....their feet are encased in a pair of dainty boots reaching-(?) at the knee, next came the pants or trunks which, however, are very short coming down, not more than half way of the thighs. The boots are pulled up to meet them. The upper part of the body is covered by a cassock of sealskin devoid of buttons and pulled on over the head. An attached hood can be drawn over the head or allowed to fall back on the shoulders at pleasure.*

*G.W. Rice Diary* [ P. 25] July 27, 1881

## Eskimo women in Proven Greenland #2— July 1881



Plate 32., Courtesy LOC

*The room was very low and the atmosphere stifling and nauseating from the odors exhaled by the skins and oil—no glass in the windows, as a substitute they used the membranous tissue of the stomach of the seal which when oiled is almost transparent. There was no stove or fireplace instead they used a hollow stone for a lamp with fuel oil and moss for a wick. The floor was of stone and earth. The sleeping arrangements were very simple, a platform about two feet high extending from the wall and occupies one side of the room. This is the receptacle of skins and (?) during the day and when the natives retire they make a (?) couch each disciple of morphea drawing over him or herself as many of the skins as necessary for comfort.*

*G. W. Rice Diary [ P. 24 - July 27, 1881]*



## Proven Greenland — July 1881



Plate 33., Courtesy Explorers Club

signed lower right

*At Proven a better opportunity for studying the habits of the primitive aborigines, is afforded than at any other place we have visited... I spent at least three hours in one of the most uninviting huts I saw. The manufacture of a cap of eider down for which I was waiting gave me a pretext for the long stay. The hut was built of --- rocks and moss and was entered of a long tunnel so low that I was compelled to crawl on my hands and feet to affect an entrance, a most disagreeable and humiliating proceeding as the dogs and natives, not much better than the former in point of cleanliness, enter in the same way. On reaching the small interior hole, which is at once their living quarters, eating and sleeping room, I was surprised to see the mistress of the house in a state of almost complete nudity sitting on the shelf or platform on which they sleep. I turned aside to give her an opportunity of donning more complete costume, but a furtive backward glance soon showed me that she appeared to prefer being dressed as nearly A la natural as possible. I at once face the music and had made a satisfactory arrangement by which I was to receive a ice cap in exchange for a neckerchief I wore. The former however, was not in issue so the contract remained executory until it was completed...The maker measured the dome of my intended with great precision and was intensely employed in cutting up Eider skin and fitting them with a cap. Her scantiness of clothes appeared to give her an advantage as she seemed to get along more expeditiously by holding the skin between her feet while sewing.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.23- 24] Wednesday, July 27, 1881*

**Polar Bear aboard *Proteus* in Baffin Bay— July 1881**



Plate 34., Courtesy Explorers Club

(signed)

*Today when in Latitude 74° 30'N "Considerable excitement was occasioned by the discovery of a veritable Polar bear. We had steamed into a small pack of ice extending in a narrow inlet and his 'Bearship' was seen on one of the pieces of ice enjoying an evening meal of a seal he had caught.. A bear! A bear! was shouted in excited tones all over the ship and soon our hunters were seen emerging with their rifles. The bear a few hundred yards from the ship and among a number of shots fired, one or two bullets hit him — up to this time he had been perfectly indifferent to our approach not finding it disagreeable for him. He went in to the water and swam a distance emerging to crawl in the ice again—by this time Kislingbury and Lockwood with Mr. Clay rowed nearer to him and soon dispatched him, bringing him triumphantly aboard. He was soon enthusiastically hoisted on board and as soon as he could be placed in position I proceeded to make a photograph of him. It was a young male in good condition. Our two Esquimaux were in their element dressing the carcass and soon had it hanging.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.29] July 30, 1881*



**Square Flipper Seal aboard the *Proteus*, Baffin Bay— July 1881**

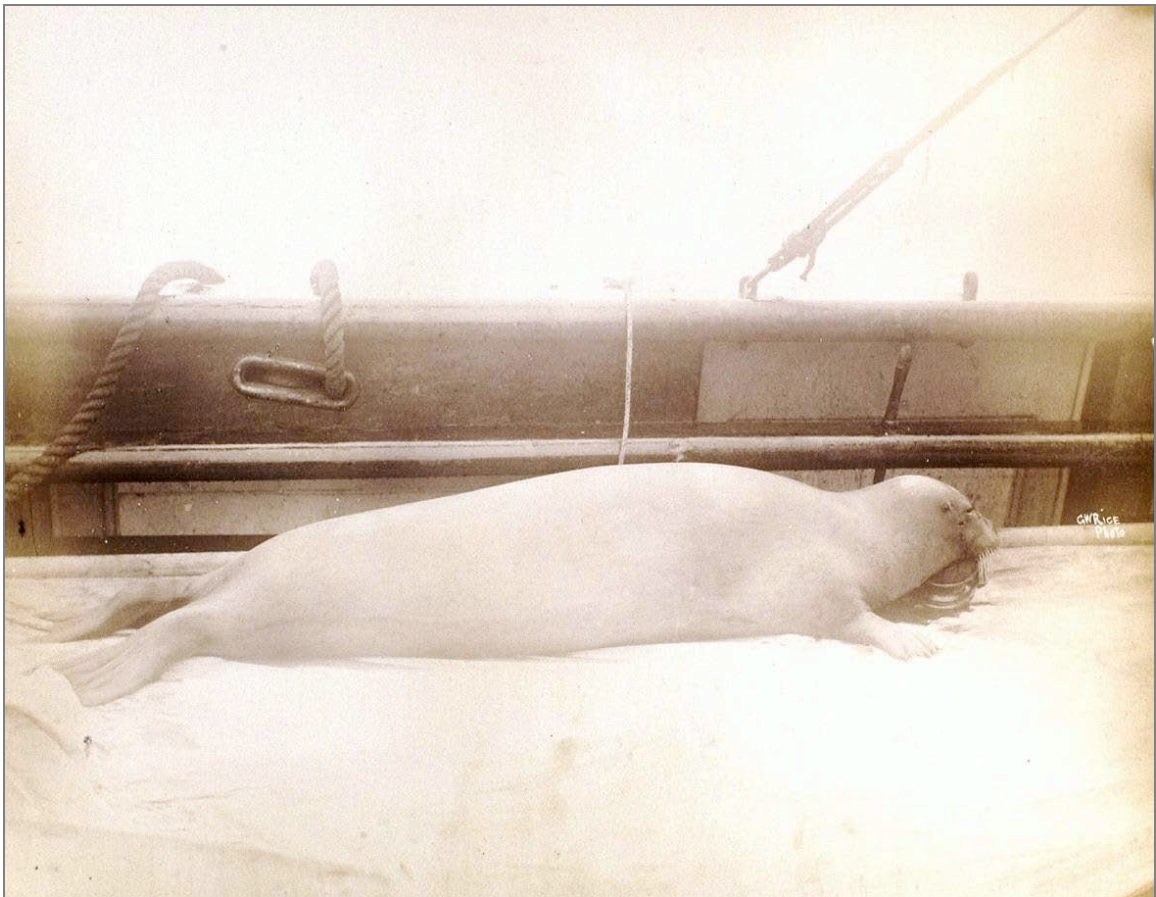


Plate 35., Courtesy Explorers Club

(signed right of seal's nose)

*We are making very good progress North though it is considered strange that no large packs of ice have been met. We fell in today with a small pack. Several seals of the "square flipper" kind were seen on the ice and we succeeded in shooting one "I also photographed it". "The bear meat which we had for breakfast was quite palatable although a little fishy, but the ducks rather reconciled us to that taste and the bear was not more fishy than they. Our fare will be still more varied by the meat of the seal which is considered excellent.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.30] July 31, 1881*

English Cairn on S.E. Cary Island — July 1881



Plate 36., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower right)

*Fog settling down we sighted Cape Dudley Diggs . We soon after made the Carey Islands and the Proteus staid within site of the land remaining about three hours. A large party landed. The Cairn erected by Capt. Allen Young was examined and a record found which we brought away leaving a copy which Lt. Greely added a short account of our own progress. A letter addressed to Sir George Nares was also found. While we were at the cairn another division of our party formed and examined the cashe of stores or rations left by Sir George Nares. They remained in good condition. The rum was tested and pronounced excellent. Several cans of meat was taken on board and appeared to be as when deposited there six years ago. The biscuit was however, moldy in part and probably one fourth of it being spoiled."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 31] August 1, 1881*

**East end of Lyttleton Island with Lifeboat Cove in distance— August 1881**



Plate 37., Courtesy LOC

*Passed Port Foulke, Dr. Hayes winter quarters, and anchored near by Lyttleton (sic) Island. Capt. Allen Young in the Pandora left letters here for the Alert and Discovery which were never recovered by the latter ships as they were on their way home and were south of this place when Capt. Young departed. It was also about this place that the ill starred Polaris was lost. On the mainland the party under Captain Buddington mutinied. So we had abundant interest in going ashore here...I photographed the site.- also made a neg of Life Boat Cove.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 32], August 2, 1881*

Notice the *Proteus's* rigging in lower left of image and spar in upper left .

GEC



## Life Boat Cove near Littleton Island, Greenland— August 1881

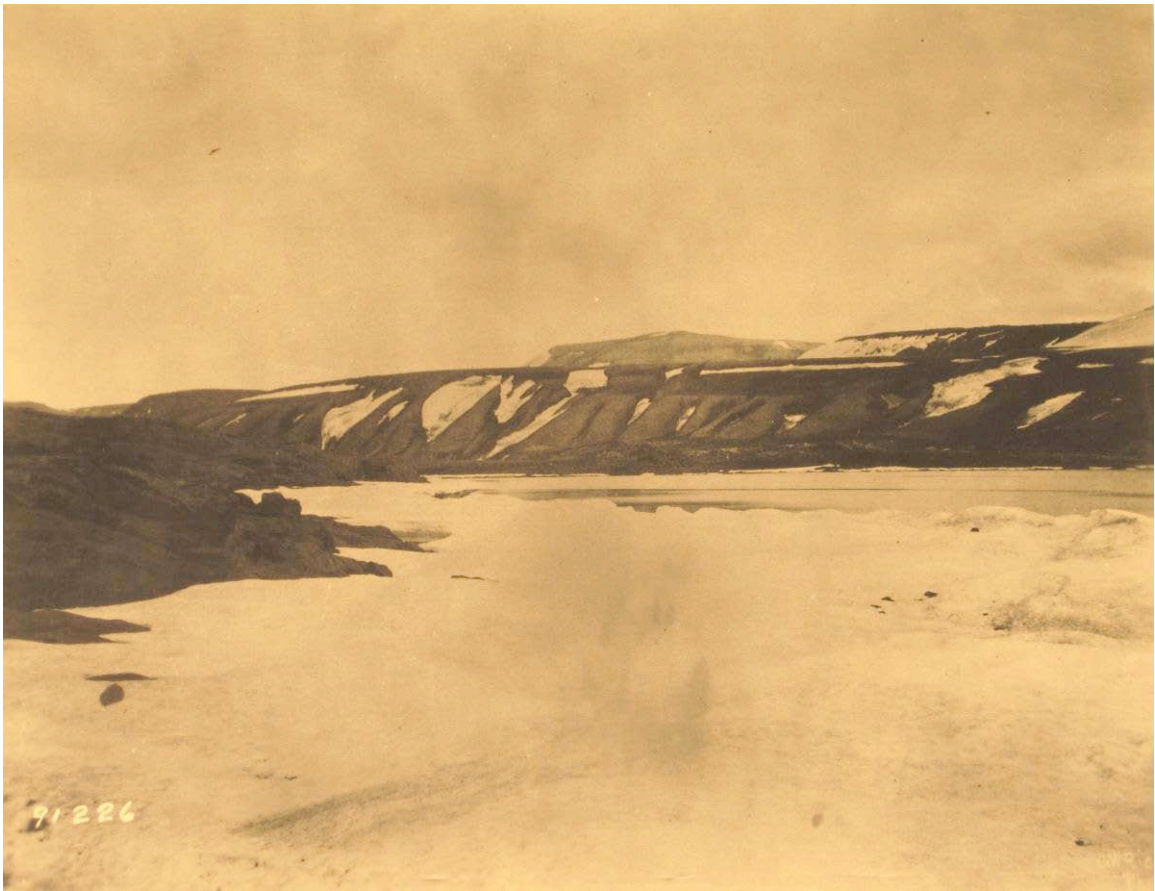


Plate 38., Courtesy NARA

( Signed lower right)

*Clear, wind brisk from the north. Arrived at Littleton Island today at noon, cast anchor and prepared to make a coal depot on shore. A party under Lt. Greely started to search for records of the Eng. After making a complete circuit of the Island, they succeeded in finding several boxes and barrels of papers and letters left by the Pandora, under Capt. Allan Young. A cairn was built on top of the cliff and a record of our visit left in it. About 7 tons of coal was put on shore, to serve as fuel in the event of our reaching this place if obliged to retreat in 1883 from L. F. Bay. A party consisting of Lt. Kislingbury, Dr. Pavy, Sgt. Rice, & Mr. Clay and two Eskimos started for the "Polaris" winter quarters found to be in very forlorn condition. Party brought away a souvenirs of their visit, several broken and useless instruments. The boxes of letters found on shore, having been brought on board, to be forwarded to the British Admiralty, the ship left the Island at about 8 p.m." H.S. Gardiner Official Dairy [P.20-21 ] Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1881*

*"I photographed the site.- also made a neg of Life Boat Cove."*

*G.W. Rice Diary[ P.32], Aug 2, 1881*



**Site of 1872 *Polaris* house at Life Boat Cove — July 1881**



Plate 39., Courtesy Explorers Club

(signed)

*The party under Greely went to look for the bag of letters, and another under Kislingbury to find the Polaris quarters—or what remained of it. “Rice went with K, “taking my photographic apparatus along” —after about 2 miles in – entered Lifeboat Cove found a demolished cairn and broken scientific instrument, “probably by the Indians”, including a transit. Remains of quarters – stoves, nails, locks, instruments, etc. etc. The time passed very quickly as we handled and looked over the articles so unceremoniously left behind when the Ravenscraig brought the storm tossed party such a happy delivery. I photographed the site.- also made a neg of life Boat Cove.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.32] August 2, 1881*

**Crystal Palace Cliffs from Littleton Island with Cape Alexander to the right and Distant Cape 12 miles due south— August 1881**



Plate 40., Courtesy Explorers Club

(signed left middle)

*This morning we had the pleasure of sighting Cape Alex at entrance to Smith Sound—we then steamed by, passing the celebrated Chrystal Palace Glacier and Chrystal Palace cliffs....Cape Alexander at 78° 10'N –“the key to the unknown arctic””-considerable exultation was felt.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.32] Aug 2, 1881*



***Proteus* anchored at Cape Hawks with northern shore of Dobbin Bay on extreme right — August 1881**



Plate 41., Courtesy LOC

*Cloudy, arrived at Cape Hawks, Washington Irving Island, at 9 am. A party under Lt. Greely, consisting of Lt. Kislingbury, Mr. Clay, Sgt. Brainard, Connell, Henry, Ryan, Ellison and the 1<sup>st</sup> mate went ashore to look after an English depot...Party under Lockwood started to examine the main shore taking with them Sgt. Rice, who was landed on a flow, and he made photographs of the island and surrounding shores. The party continued on to the land, found the cairn and record left by the English. They took a copy of the record and left one of their visit. This being an invariable custom when a party finds a cairn. Dr. Pavy and Pvt. Beiderbeck made some collections of wild flowers while on shore with this party. The party returned to the ship safely, picking Sgt. Rice up on their way.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary 1881 [ P. 34] Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1881*

***Proteus* at Cape Hawks— August 3, 1881**



Plate 42., Courtesy NARA

*9 a.m. August 3. The Proteus lay-to just north of Cape Hawks, while I, with Lt. Kislingbury examined the English depot of 1875, and sent Lt. Lockwood and Dr. Pavy to Washington Irving Island. The jolly boat was found in good condition, and was taken by me, as I was short of boats. It was named Valorous, from H.M. ship to which it originally belonged....Sergeant Rice made several photographs of the surrounding country during our brief stay.*

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1 [ P. 5] Washington Government Printing Office, 1888

## Cape Hawks — August 1881



Plate 43., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

*Found and brought on board mail for H.M.S. Alert and Discovery, left by Sir Allen Young. Left Littleton Island 10:45 p.m., August 2<sup>nd</sup>, and reached Cape Hawks 8:45 a.m., August 3<sup>rd</sup>, running at full speed from Littleton Island and encountering no pack, or indeed, other ice of the slightest importance.*

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1, [Appendix no. 7, P.110 ] Washington Government Printing Office, 1888



**English Depot from Morning Ice, just north of Cape Hawks— August 1881**



Plate 44., Courtesy LOC

(signed middle left edge)

*While Lt. Greely was ashore examining the depot left at Cape Hawks (where we arrived at 8:30 am), I was landed on piece of floe ice and from that position made photographs of the surrounding land, Cape Hawkes and Washington Irving Island. Lt. Greely found boat and stores which were brought aboard—left Cape Hawks at 11a.m.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.8], August 3, 1881*

**General View to the North from a point in Kane's Sea about 12 miles east of Victoria Head with Washington Irving Island in center and Cape Hawks the prominent point—August 3, 1881**



Plate 45., Courtesy LOC

*Photographed Bache Island at a distance of 20 miles from the ship. Also photographed Cape Hawks and Washington Irving Island at a distance of 8 miles...These photographs, on account of the great distance and remarkable reflection fogging the plates and disadvantage of making them from the ship while in motion, are not very good negatives, but were fine for geographical purposes.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.34] August 3, 1881*

**Washington Irving Island, Kane Sea— August 1881**



Plate 46., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

*78° 53'N*

*A most beautiful morning – the sea is calm as a duck pond reflecting back the dark cliffs—photographed Cape Hawks and Washington Irving Island at a distance of 8 miles.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 34] August 3, 1881*

**Bache Island from Kane Sea— August 1881**



Plate 47., Courtesy LOC

**North side Carl Ritter Bay— August 1881**



Plate 48., Courtesy LOC

*Clear, arrived at Carl Ritter Bay about 12.30 Pm. We made a cache at this place of 2 barrels of hard bread, 2 boxes of canned corn beef, 1 sack of pemmican, about 50 lbs in weight. The party also made a cairn and left a record. A dense fog settled down in the afternoon and continued all night, the ship laying too.*

*H.S. Gardiner Diary [ P. 23], Wednesday, August 4, 1881*

Note three figures and small boat in center on ice foot.

GEC



**Lts. Kislingbury & Lockwood Polar Expedition taken on Northern ice Pack. Lat 81° 35' north— August 5, 1881**



Plate 49., By permission of Douglas Wamsley

**“Hard Road to Travel”— the view from Cape Murchison looking towards Cape Lieber, August 1881.**



Plate 50., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower right)

*Arrived opposite Cape Lieber at 3:30 p.m. and fastened ship to the immense ice field which here barred our further progress. The ice extending in one solidly packed mass from shore to shore and as far north as the eye could see. During the afternoon Lt. Greely, Lt. Lockwood, and Dr. Pavy with Pvt. Whistler and the 1<sup>st</sup> Mate and 1 sailor from the ship went to the shore in a small boat.... while the party were away, part of the ice field gave way and floated down the straits, and the ship moved about 4 miles to the north. Ship moored again about 4.30 Pm, about 7 Pm, another lead opened, and the ship moved about 2 miles to the north.*

*H.S. Gardiner Diary [ P. 24] Thursday, August 5, 1881*

***Proteus* first stopped by ice at Cape Baird— August 1881**



Plate 51., Courtesy NARA

*At 9 p.m. on August 4 the vessel was stopped for the first time by the ice in the extreme southeastern part of Lady Franklin Bay, only eight miles from our destination. The pack was a very heavy one extending in a semi-circle from Cape Baird to the Greenland coast, near the mouth of Petermann Fiord. It consisted of paleocrystic floes ranging from twenty to fifty feet in thickness, which were cemented together by harbor ice from two to five feet thick. The Proteus was made fast to the southern edge of the pack to await further movement of the ice.*

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1, [ P.6] Washington Government Printing Office, 1888

*At 3:30 a.m. tried to force ship through channel in ice but the attempt was ineffectual. Fastened to the floe again not shifting till 3 p.m. when we moved to the Southward. Unless the ice will break-up and leave us a channel we shall be forced too far to enable us to reach Lady Franklin Bay this season and be compelled to seek winter quarters on a lower latitude. I am apprehensive that we will be caught in the pack and held firmly. The pack as it moves taking us down Smith Sound as it did the Polaris. The outcome is rather disconcerting when we consider how nearly we attained our destination. To be forced back now after getting a sight of our goal will be a greater disappointment than the same results if the difficulty had been met earlier.*

*G.W. Rice Diary* [ P. 38] Sunday August 7, 1881

## CHAPTER III

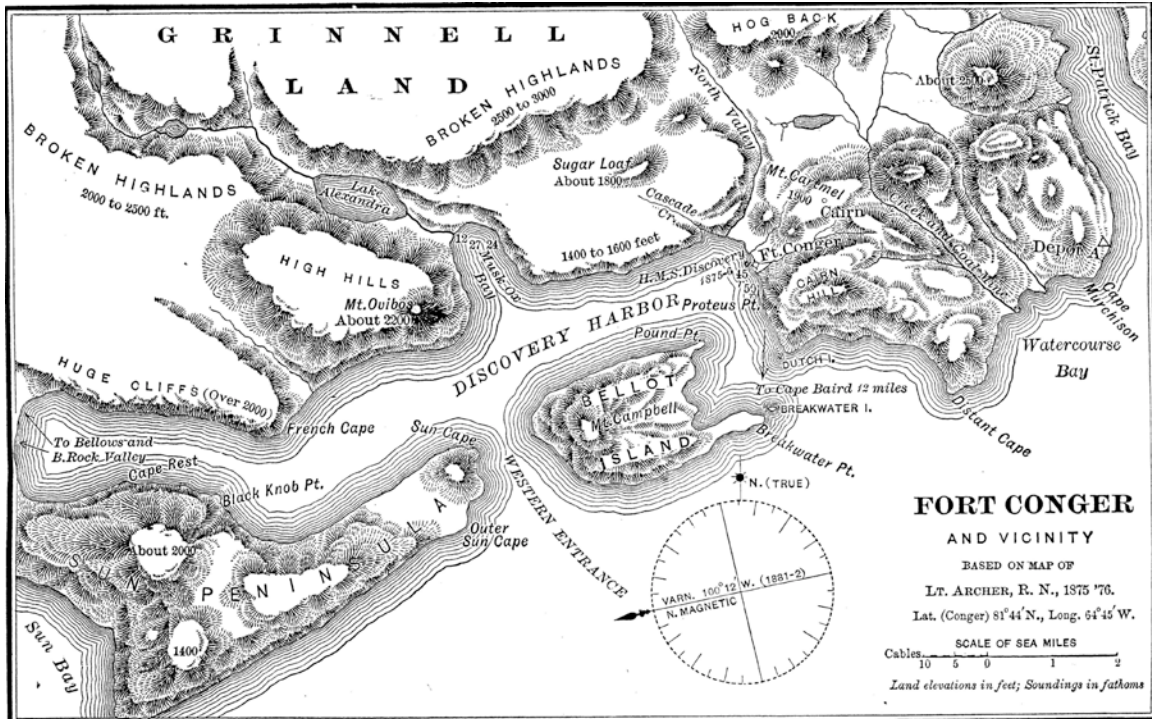
### FORT CONGER CONSTRUCTION

On their arrival at Discover Harbor the expedition members worked around the clock in twenty four hour daylight to unload the material for their winter station and supplies to last them for a total of three years. Rice documented this entire procedure so that the photographic negatives could be returned to the Signal Corps on the *Polaris*, along with the photographs taken on the voyage north. This provided concrete evidence of their progress and considering the unfortunate events that occurred subsequently, was essential to the preservation of the records. That the construction process went so smoothly is a credit to Greely's ability as an organizer and engineer.

Subsequently Rice photographed the exterior of the station in the various seasons and he even obtained images of the interior, though only of the officers quarters. Each of the three officers and Dr. Pavy had their own corner of a rather small room. Comparing the precise organization of Greely's corner (P.89-90) with the relative chaos of Lockwood's (P.91) only a few feet away, one can understand the frictions that occurred during the long, dark winter months when they were confined to quarters.



## Fort Conger and Environs— Discovery Harbor, Ellesmere Island



Map 2. From *Three Years of Arctic Service*



## ***Proteus* in Discovery Harbor— August 1881**



Plate 52., Courtesy LOC

(Signed under bow sprit)

*Several designated vessels were carefully inspected under directions of the Secretary of Navy, and from those reported to be fit for the service of the steamer, Proteus was selected.. She was a new (7 years old) barkentine rigged steamer of oak, with two compound engines; 110 horsepower; 467 tons register; had an iron armed prow, and was sheathed with ironwood from above the water- line to below the turn of the bilge....The charter of this vessel consumed over three-fourths of the appropriation, leaving less than six thousand dollars for the special outfit of this party.*

A.W. Greely, *Three Years of Arctic Service, Vol. I*, [P.37], Charles Scribner's Sons, New York 1886

Note building under construction to right or bow sprit. (GEC)

## English Cairn at Discovery Harbor— August 1881

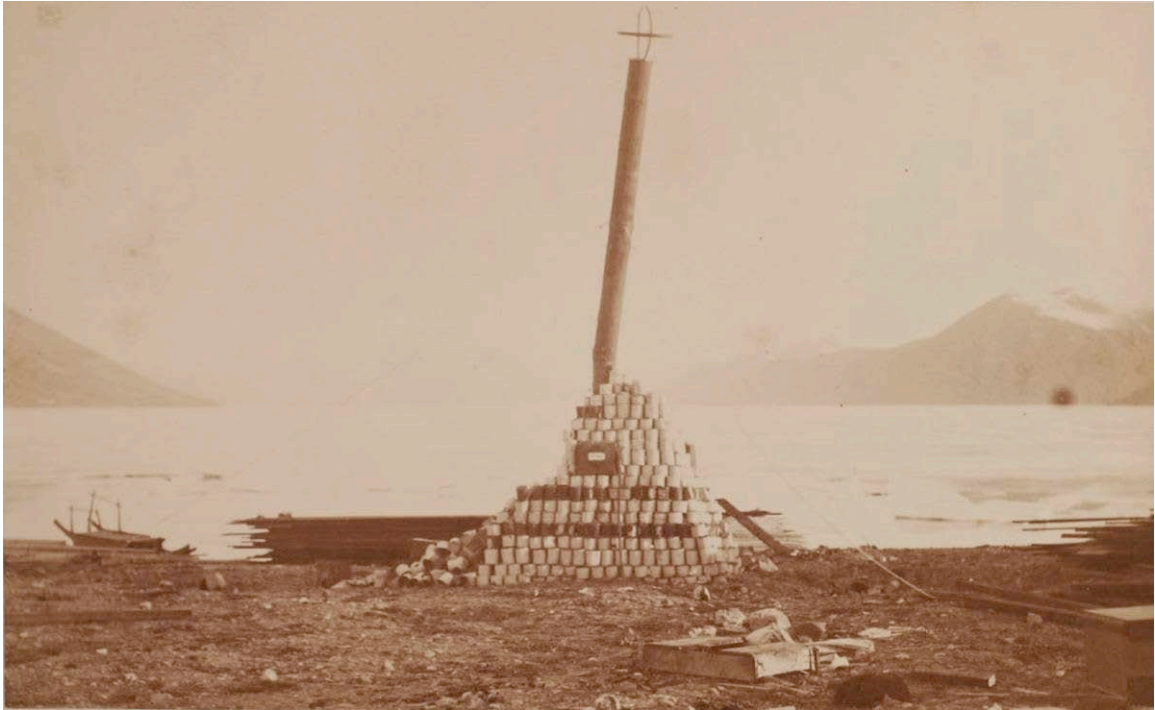


Plate 53., Courtesy NARA

*Lt. Lockwood having brought back information that the harbor near the coal mine was not accessible and the position for establishing our camp not so favorable as near Discovery Harbor. Lt. Greely concludes to establish quarters at the latter place. The ship is then forced through the ice further into the harbor. A difficult task occupying the time till 2 p.m. She would charge the ice at full speed sending her hull half it's length in the ice where she would be sometimes stuck. But extricating herself would back out and return to the charge. At one time it was necessary to blast the ice out from under to free her. Preparations are speedily being made for unloading our goods and stores. The cairn left by the English to be examined and their records read. The cairn is a monument to determination for it is built of hundreds of empty cans filled with pebbles.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 42]. Friday August 12, 1881*

**Cairn erected by former English expedition at site of Ft. Conger, Discovery Harbor with Bellot Island in background — August 14, 1881**



Plate 54., Courtesy NARA

**Discovery Harbor with stores, game stand and lumber. Bellot Island is in background — August 1881**



Plate 55., Courtesy LOC

(Signed lower right)



**Discovery Harbor with stores, game stand and *Proteus*— August 1881**



Plate 56., Courtesy LOC

(signed left on box)

*Greely...obtained a prefabricated, twenty-five by eighty, double-walled structure with all the accoutrements to be used as the station's main accommodation. It included a bathtub and kitchen sink, a three-year supply of provisions and clothing for thirty men, supplies for fabricating sledges and other equipment on site, and even a steam-launch, which he named Lady Greely after Henrietta. Most important, and in accordance with the goals of the First International Year, Greely assembled over two hundred instruments to carry out scientific measurements.*

(GEC)

***Proteus* at Discovery Harbor — August 1881**



Plate 57., Courtesy NARA

(signed left on box)

*The party was divided into gangs for unloading the stores. The general cargo was discharged in sixty hours by 4 a.m. of the 14<sup>th</sup>, and one hundred and forty tons of coal were landed by the evening of the 18<sup>th</sup>. The station was named Conger in honor of Senator Omar D. Conger who had taken a deep interest in the expedition."*

*A.W. Greely Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay, Grinnell Land, Vol. I, [P.7] Washington Government printing Office, 1888*

**Discovery Harbor with game stands and *Proteus* in background— August 1881**



Plate 58., Courtesy NARA

*Arriving at the winter quarters on the way to the ship, we met a party going into the hills to dress the game they had killed and bring as much of it as possible to where we were to build our quarters which is to be at the same place as the English cairn is on the E. shore of Discovery Harbor about 2 ½ miles from it's mouth. (P.30)*

*Our party increased by several of the ships crew, worked all night in skinning, dressing and carrying the dead musk-oxen down to our camping place. (P.31)*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary 1881 [ P. 30- 31] Aug 11,12, 1881*

**Discovery Harbor with game stands and stores— August 1881**



Plate 59., Courtesy NARA

Lt. Lockwood leaning against game stands at Discovery Harbor.(GEC)



**Discovery Harbor with barrels and stores in foreground and Fort Conger construction in background— August 1881**



Plate 60., Courtesy NARA

(signed lower middle)

*Weather fair. All hands busy. The work of unloading commissary stores was finished today, and the embarkation of coal commenced. All work was stopped at noon until midnight for the purpose of giving the men a much needed rest, and to allow them to finish writing their letters home. (I said all work but should say all work but records) New ice forms every night and our boats have some difficulty at times in forcing their way through it.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary 1881 [P.33-34] Sunday August 14, 1881*

**Discovery Harbor with *Proteus* to left and supplies on shore— August 1881**



Plate 61., Courtesy NARA

*As soon as the ship made fast, Lt. Greely divided the party into 2 squads and the work of unloading was commenced, to be continued day and night until finished. The ship lies about 300 yds. from the shore, and the intervening space has been cleared so as to make a lane for the boats to go to the shore with our supplies. The launch was put overboard and most of the lumber was cleared from the decks."*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary 1881 [ P. 31] Thursday, August 12, 1881*

**Discovery Harbor with stores and partially framed Ft. Conger in background—  
August 1881**



Plate 62., Courtesy NARA

## Fort Conger under construction at Discovery Harbor— August 1881



Plate 63., Courtesy NARA

*The day opened fair. Work was commenced on our quarters this am under the supervision of our boss carpenter Corpl. Ellison. Lt. Greely has named this place Ft. Conger, in honor of Mr. Conger of Michigan, who done much in Congress to help the cause of the expedition. Everybody very busy during the day. The work of unloading goes on very rapidly. The cask of English rum was taken out today and issued to the men, who enjoyed it very much after working all day in the cold and wet."*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary [P.33] Saturday, August 13, 1881*



**Discovery Harbor; Fort Conger being framed with *Proteus* in background—  
August 1881**

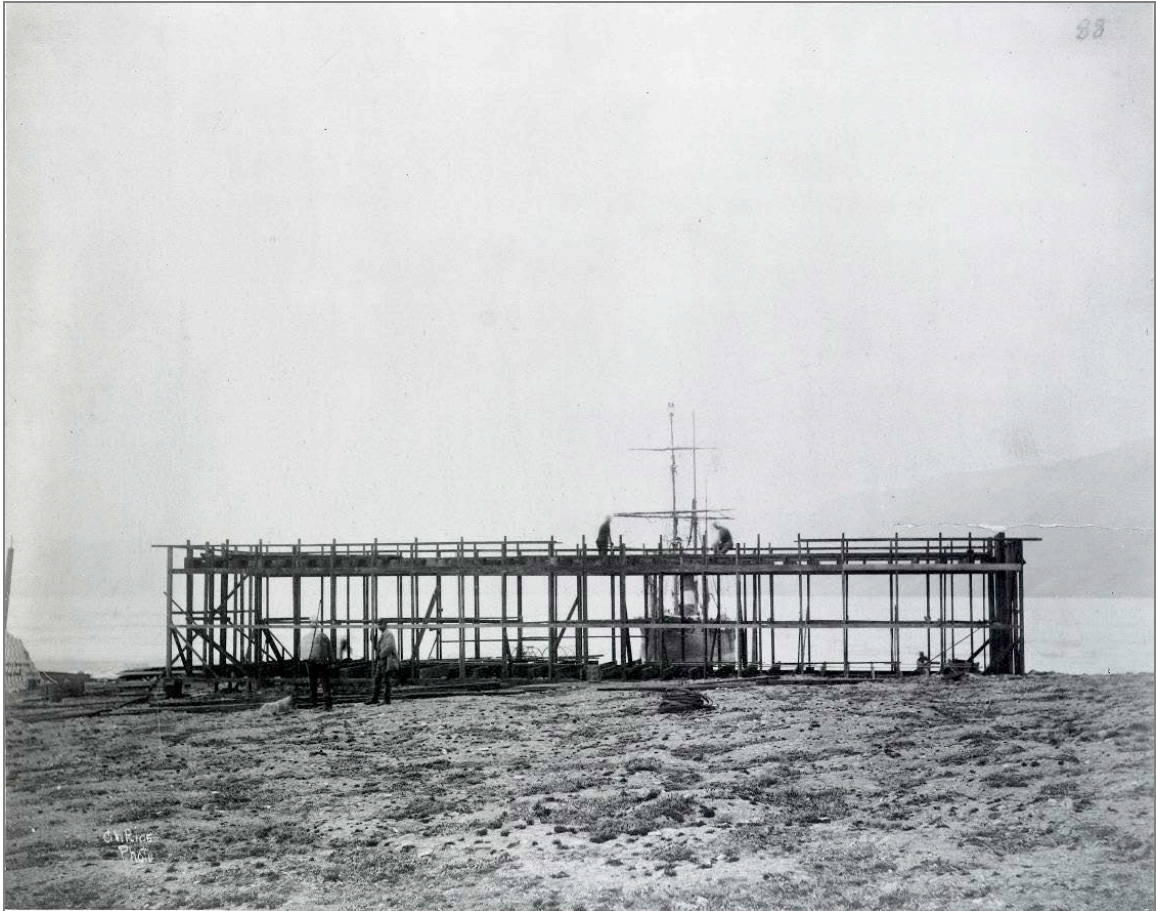


Plate 64., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower left)

*During the past week I have been making photographs daily at our camp as it increased in size and the house as it assumed from day to day the appearance of a human habitation. The negatives are sent to the Signals Office and will serve to show the progress we are making and also the general appearance of the locality. I was kept excessively engaged. Many letters to write as no other opportunities may be offered for years. At least one year, and the experience of this season rather shakes my belief in the ability of a ship to reach this latitude every season. It is a mere chance. I made most of the negative at midnight, writing my letters up to that time and snatching a few hours of sleep before breakfast. Working party divided into two parties – one works while the other sleeps. Sun above the horizon 24 hour—I was able to make photographs at any hour of the night.”*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P.43] August 18, 1881*

**Framing of Fort Conger with man on roof —August 1881**



Plate 65., Courtesy NARA

*The only comparatively level part of the country was that in the immediate neighborhood of the house. The building was conveniently and pleasantly situated within thirty yards of the water's edge on a small tableland between two brooks, which for a few months in the year ran into the sea."*

A. W. Greely, *Three Years of Arctic Service, Vol. I* [P.91], Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885

**Fort Conger (5 days old)— August 18, 1881**

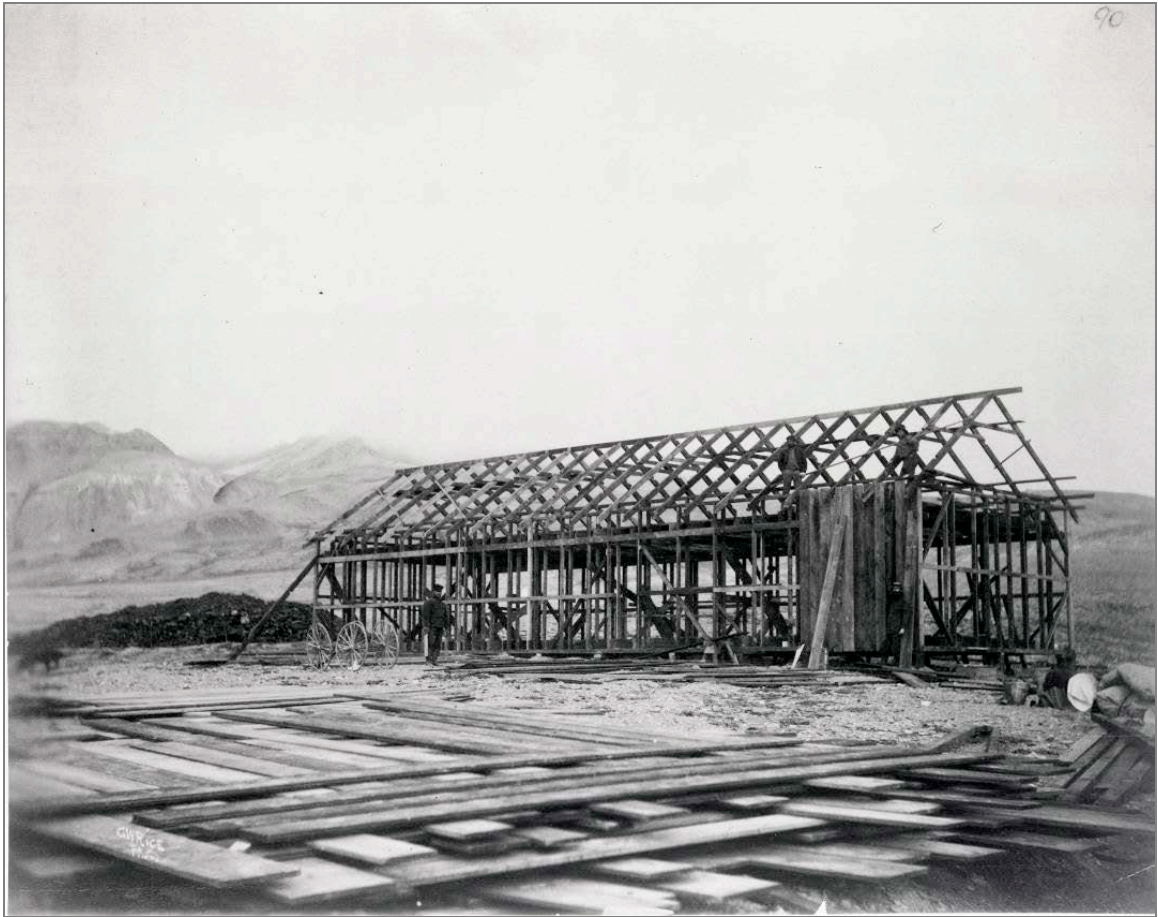


Plate 66., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower left)

*The external wood was fastened vertically instead of horizontally, and though there was but a single covering, yet we managed by strong battening to securely fasten the tar-paper and prevent serious draughts. The roof was but the thickness of a single board, and, like the sides, was covered with tar-paper secured by battening”*

A. W. Greely, *Three Years of Arctic Service, Vol. I* [P.89], Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885

A.W. Greely in straw hat as he stands in front of siding to right of building. (GEC)



***Proteus* stopped by ice as she departs Fort Conger— August, 1881**



Plate 67., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(Signed lower right)

*Today the “Proteus”, heretofore unable to get away, succeeded in getting through the ice and passed out of sight. We cannot know of course what her success will be in getting out of Smith Sound until next year. Lt. Kislingbury on account of some dissatisfaction with the commanders management desired to go back. Permission was granted and he prepared to return by the Proteus, but before he could reach her, she passed out and he was compelled to remain.*

*G.W Rice Diary [P.46] August 25 ,1881*



**East side of Fort Conger banked with snow— October 1881**



Plate 68., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower left)

*We were busy for an hour or two building an ice wall around the house. We have been furnished with a few hours exercise every morning in constructing this wall which will afford a shelter from the north wind. I have the honor of being appointed Superintendent of Construction. The temperature still continues mild. Maximum  $+2^{\circ}$  F to Minimum  $-12^{\circ}$*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 78], Thursday Oct 27, 1881*

**West side of Fort Conger— March 1882**



Plate 69., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(Signed lower left)

*At the north and south ends lean-to's of canvas and tar paper were constructed, which served useful purposes as store-houses, and also afforded intermediate stopping places between the warm quarters and the wintry air. A similar addition was made in the second year to the west side of the house.*

A.W. Greely, *Three Years of Arctic Service, Vol. I* [P.89], Scribner's Sons, 1886

*".....Rice is busy making photographs around the building."*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary* [P.11], March 14, 1882

**Front view of Fort Conger, observation hut on left — 1881/1882**



Plate 70., Courtesy LOC

*The house was 60 by 17 feet in the clear. It's walls were double, the two coverings of half-inch boards being separated by an air space of about a foot. Great reliance was placed on the non-conductivity to heat of these air-spaces to contribute to our warmth. The inside lining consisted of well fitted boards, which were tongued and grooved by our own carpenters, but to insure freedom from draughts a covering of boards was fastened. A covering of much heavier tar paper was placed on the outside of the external boards. The external wood was fastened vertically instead of horizontally, and though there was but a single covering, yet we managed by strong battening to securely fasten the tar paper and prevent serious draughts.*

A.W. Greely, *Three Years of Arctic Service, Vol. I* [P.89] Scribner's Sons, 1886



**Greely's "corner" at Ft. Conger — October 5, 1881**



Plate 71., Courtesy LOC

*The interior of the house was divided into three rooms, one 17 by 15 feet for the officers, which was separated from the large room of the men by an intermediate space of 8 by 17 feet, of which 6 by 8 served as an entry, and a small space of 11 by 8 feet was allowed the cook as his special domain.*

A.W. Greely, *Three Years of Arctic Service, Vol. I* [P.89], Scribner's Sons, 1886



**Greely's "Corner" at Fort Conger—August 1882**



Plate 72., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower right)

*I make photographs of Lt. Lockwood's North Greenland map and also some negatives of additional Esquimaux relics. I also made another negative of Lt. Greely's corner—interior. Do not know how the photographic copy of the map will turn out as my landscape lens is not suitable for such work.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 202], Tuesday Aug 1, 1882*

**Lt. Lockwood's Corner— June, 1883**



Plate 73., Courtesy LOC

*"I made a negative of Lt L's corner today. Max temp +29.4 min +24.1."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 250] Friday June 1, 1883*

## CHAPTER IV

### FORT CONGER ENVIRONS

The size and fragility of Rice's photographic apparatus made it very difficult for him to venture far afield. Because of this and the fact that his primary duty was to record the expedition's work it is not surprising that he took many photographs in the vicinity of the station. He was able to document many of the activities of every day life, which kept him occupied outside the summer months.



Decoration Day at Ft. Conger, plaque in memory of H.M.S. Discovery—August 1882



Plate 74 Courtesy NARA

(signed middle right side)

*Very pleasant weather. I made a busy day of it exposing plates and making negatives of different subjects... I also made negative of the headstone that is erected to the memory of Hand and Paul – the two men who died on the Greenland sledging party; also steam launch and some more Esk [Eskimo] relics."*

G.W. Rice Diary [P. 203] Friday Aug 4, 1882

Hand and Paul were members of the Nares expedition. (GEC)



**Sgt. Jewell taking meteorological readings in observation hut at Ft. Conger—  
August 1882**

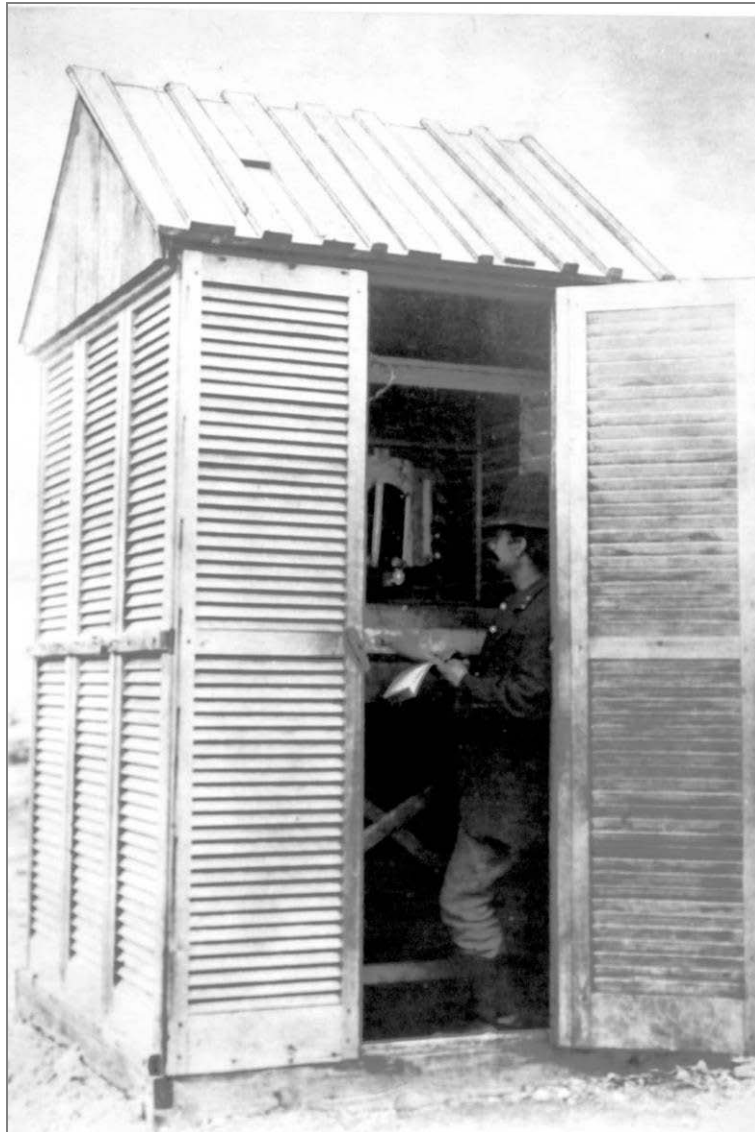


Plate 75., Courtesy LOC

*Israel found a small spider this evening and I succeeded in making him spin his web which I wound upon a wire frame. Last winter we were at a great loss for webs for use on the magnetic and astronomical instruments, so much so that we had to use silk fiber which does not answer so well as it is too thick.*

*H.S. Gardiner Private Journal 1882 [P. 54.] Friday June 6, 1882*

*Very pleasant weather. I made a busy day of it exposing plates and making negatives of different subjects. I photographed the instrument shelter, with one of the observers—Jewell—engaged in taking the hourly observation—to show the manner in which the thermometers are exposed.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 203] Friday Aug 4, 1882*

**Sgt. R.R. Schneider hauling ice with pup dog team —April 1883**



Plate 76., Courtesy AMHI

signed lower right)

*To further insure our safe retreat, I decided later to bring from Thank God Harbor the English Ice boat left there by Lieutenant Beaumont in 1876. On April 10, Sergeant Rice left, with ten men, to obtain the boat...The puppy team, driven by Schneider, hauled the greater part of the constant weights. Sergeant Rice returned on the 15<sup>th</sup> having made a most successful trip, by which the ice boat was brought in, in perfect condition to Dutch Island, whence it was hauled, a few days later, to Cape Baird and carefully secured for possible Autumn work.”.*

Greely A.W., *Three years of Arctic Service*, [P. 62-64 ] Vol. II, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885

**Eskimo Jens returning from seal hunt near Ft. Conger — June 1882**



Plate 77., Courtesy LOC

*Wednesday June 7, 1882*

*Jens and Lt Kislingbury went seal hunting with dog team. They succeeded in getting one.*

*Thursday, June 8 1882:*

*Jens brought in another seal. I varnished some negatives in the morning after which Henry and I went to the Cascade Ravine to see if it was in a position to be photographed. It was not.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 190] June 7- 8, 1882*



**Eskimo Jens and Dr. Pavy skin a seal near Fort Conger —May 1882**



Plate 78., Courtesy LOC

*We have had some great hunting exploits lately, 5 seal have been killed, also numerous hares, Ptarmigan etc. The largest seal weighed 645 lbs. and the others nearly as much. The length of this large one was 8 ft. 4 in. over all. He had a coating of about 4 inches of blubber which was a bright yellow or orange tinged with spots of blood..*

*Gardiner Official Diary 1882 [ P.18] Tuesday, May 30, 1882*

*The seal was killed a few hundred yards out from the Station and Jens' tactics as he approached the wary animal were interesting to observe. He had a white screen on a frame which he placed in front of his kayak. He proceeding noiselessly watching his game through a small hole in the screen. The animal takes the moving object for a piece of ice and does not appear in the least alarmed. Jens soon gets a large berg to intervene between himself and the seal he then deposits screen on ice to be recovered afterwards and advances rapidly. Concealed by the berg he lands on the ice and soon lodges his bullet in the fat quarry.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.206] Tuesday August 15, 1882*



**Arctic clouds over Bellot Island with stranded ice in foreground —August 11, 1881**



Plate 79., Courtesy NARA

*Water Course Bay was entirely filled with pack ice, jammed against the shore, which extended to the southward, but a narrow lane of water between Distant Cape and Bellot Island permitted the vessel to enter Discovery Harbor, where she was moored to the ice inside Dutch Island.*

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1, [P.6] Washington Government Printing Office, 1888

**The steam launch “*Lady Greely*” in Discovery Harbor— 1882**



Plate 80., Courtesy LOC

(Signed lower right)

*“It was 6 am when we crawled in our sleeping bag which we had earlier laid on shore. A very lovely morning, the sun shining brightly on the bay, glistening and coruscating on the rafts of blue and crystal ice, and reflecting the glowing cliffs in the still water. We found that Israel had been triangulating and doing part of the topographical work for which he came...We got up in the afternoon after a refreshing sleep. Steam was started on the launch at 2:45 pm. I exposed several plates on views of the surrounding scene; and we took some more bearings. At 4:30 pm we were again under way steaming up to the head of “Howgate Fiord”.*

*G. W. Rice Diary [ P. 208] August 22, 1882*



**View From Brevoort Island —March 1882**



Plate 81., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed on black rock)

*Dr. Pavy, Linn and Jens with a dog team well loaded started for the Greenland coast to make cache of provisions at Cape Brevoort for the use of travelers northward further in the spring."*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Dairy [P.9] March 5, 1882*

**Sample hill side about Fort Conger**

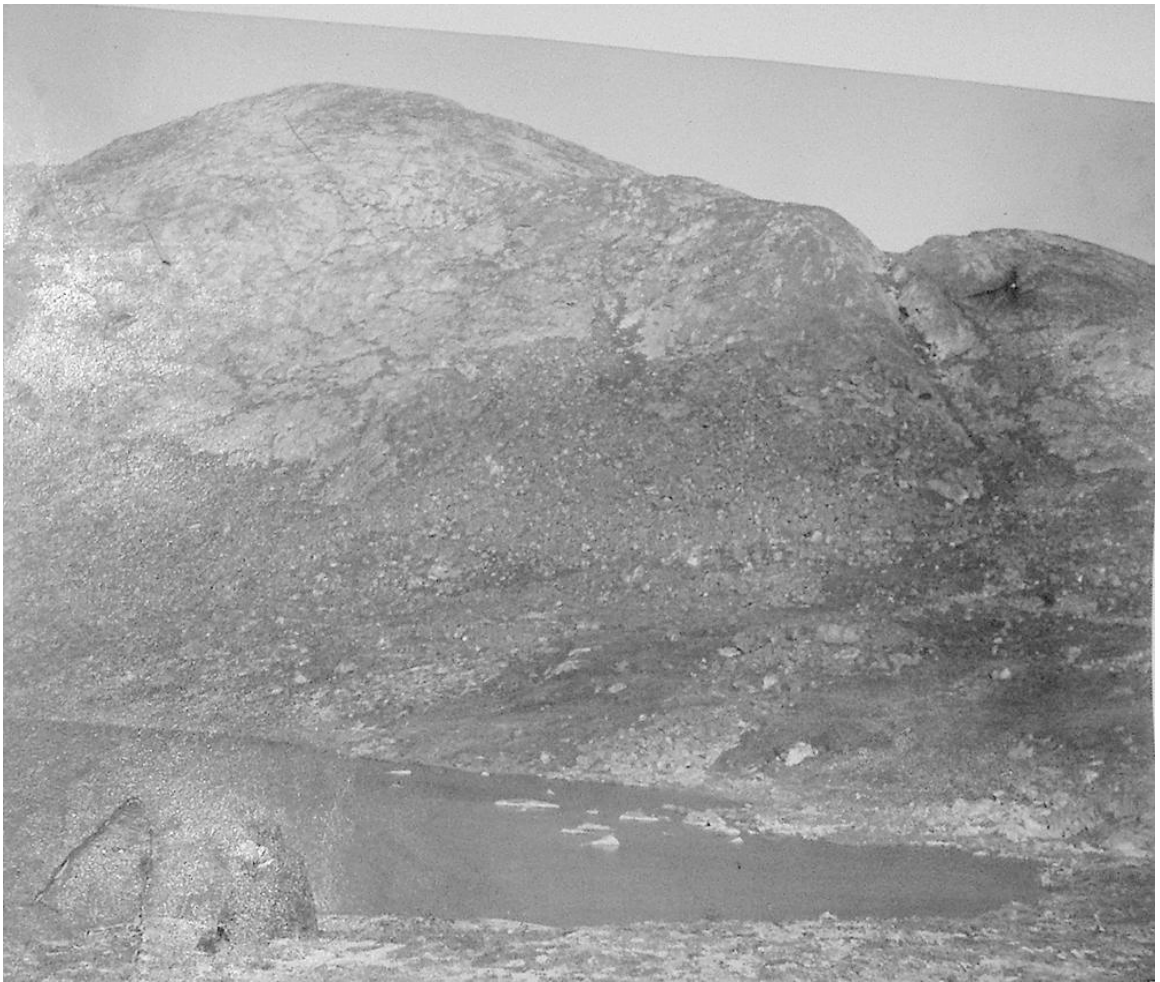


Plate 82., Courtesy AMHI



## CHAPTER V

### ARTIFACTS AND FAUNA

Because of the “little ice age” which occurred around the year 1200 northern Ellesmere island had not been occupied by the native Inuit for hundreds of years. The explorers found evidence of ancient settlements wherever they traveled, well preserved by the cold, dry climate. While none of them were trained archeologists they collected large numbers of artifacts which Rice duly recorded. The most spectacular of these was the remains of an ancient sled or komitik, made entirely of driftwood, bone and sinew. This was of virtually the same construction as the sleds Greely had purchased in Greenland for his use, and which are still used today. Rice reconstructed the ancient sled and photographed in conjunction with one of their own.

The party depended upon the indigenous musk ox for their primary source of meat. They were relatively easy to hunt because they had no innate fear of man and would round up into a defensive position where they could be easily shot rather than running away. Obtaining seal meat required the expertise of the Inuit hunter Jens Christianson. Rice photographed numerous specimens both dead and alive as well as other game.

**Ancient Eskimo sled found near Cape Baird, 87°-30' N.**



Plate 83., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed)

**Eskimo artifacts and modern sledges near Fort Conger —1882**



Plate 84., Courtesy The Explorers Club

*"I photograph more relics; among them the old sledge which we tied together and set up to represent its appearance while in use. With it I photographed one of our "modern" Greenland sledges."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 204] Friday Aug 11, 1882*



**Display of Eskimo artifacts found at Cape Baird —1882**



Plate 85., Courtesy LOC

(Signed)

*At Cape Baird some of the excursionists discovered Eskimo remains consisting of a sledge, stone lamps, etc. The sledge had fallen to pieces but they found both runners – which were bone shod, the two upstanders of bone evidently whale ribs and several of the crosspieces—also of bone.”*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 203], Monday Aug 7, 1882*



**Eskimo relics found at junction of Lake Hazen and Ruggles River— June 1882**



Plate 86., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(Signed bottom left)

*Corp. Salor and Pvt. Whistler returned from supporting Lt Greely to the westward. Lt. G accompanied by Sergt. Lynn and Biederbeck continued on from Lake Hazen, at which place S and W parted with them. They bring back their haversacks filled with curious Eskimo remains which they found at an encampment at Lake Hazen and at Ruggles River. The relics are most curious consisting of the bone and ivory mounting for dog-harnesses sledges, etc.; and also two combs made of bone and containing only about half a dozen teeth. These latter were nicely ornamented—one of them I think, with an indelicate subject and proved a degree of culture which may be significant to anthropologists. The work however was very crude. Portions of reindeer horn were also found that prove that this animal now no longer seen here once flourished. Almost all the articles were in good state of preservation but it is difficult to say how long it is since their uses existed. This climate deals gently with inanimate things. Looking at some of the implements in perfect condition we could imagine the aborigines as our contemporaries although they have never been met with in these parts, and their last representation may have passed away two centuries ago.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 196] Monday July 3, 1882*

## Display of Eskimo artifacts —1882

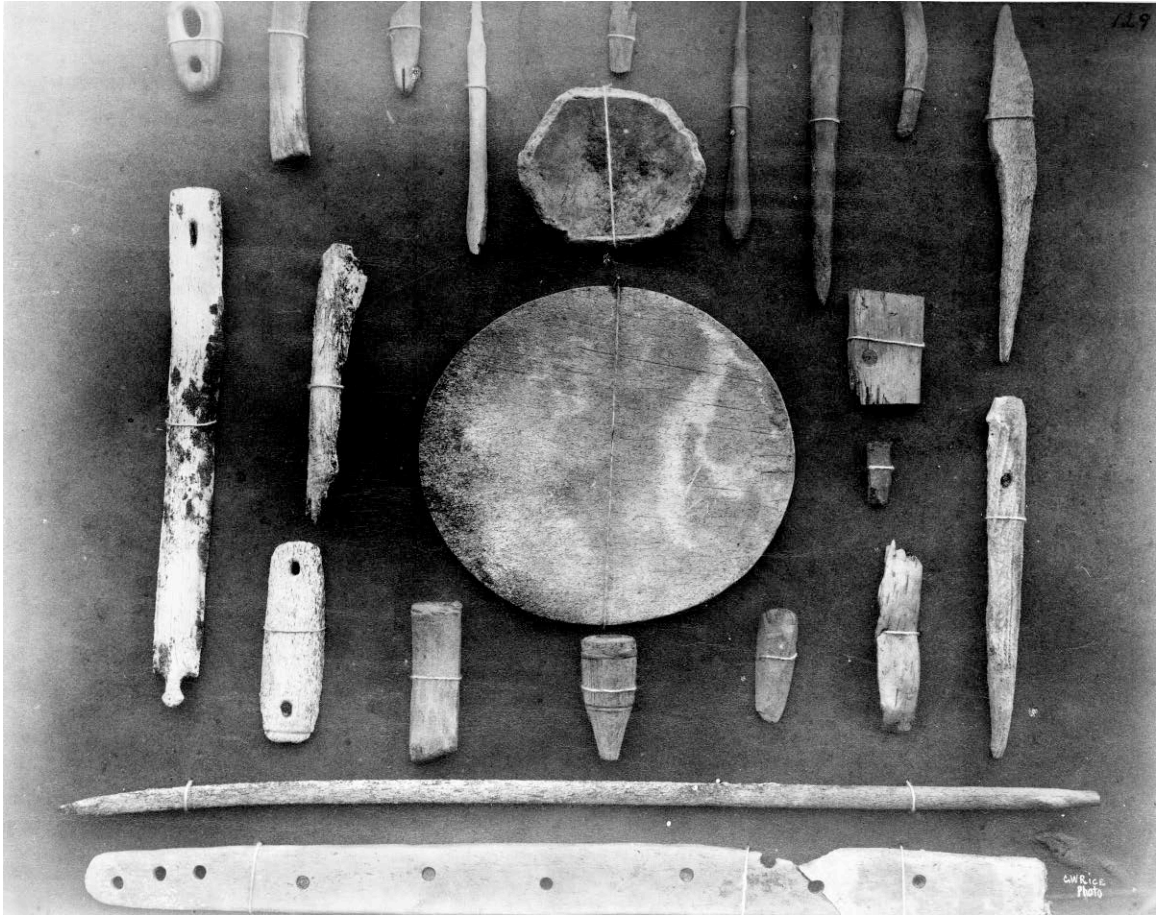


Plate 87., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower right)

*A day so dull and cloudy that my projected photographic work had to be postponed and I slept until 10 o'clock. Then Commanding Officer sent for me to arrange the Eskimo relics to be photographed. Elison is making a frame covered with tar paper on which they are to be arranged. Henry and Whistler return at 4 a.m. bringing all relics that have been cached in Black Rock Vale."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 201] Thursday July 27, 1882*

*Elison engaged all day in mounting additional of the Eskimo relics for me to photograph.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.203] Saturday Aug 5, 1882*

**Wolf killed near Ft. Conger —September 1881**

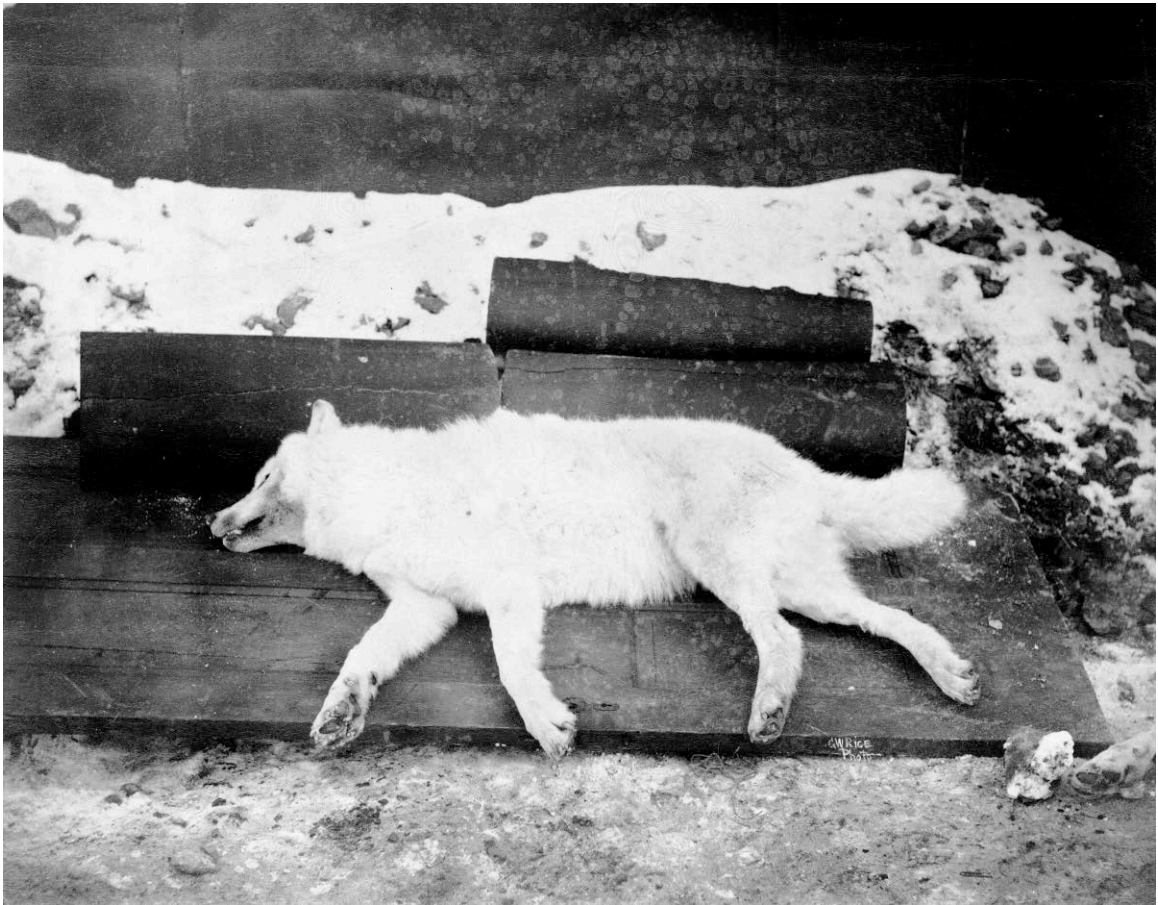


Plate 88., Courtesy LOC

(signed edge of board right side)

*This morning Lt. Kislingbury and I visit the musk ox offal to see if the poison we had laid for them had brought about any results. We found two victims stretched stark and stiff. They were both females with beautiful white coats. We carried them both to camp, a difficult task as the distance was fully a mile. They weighed 57 and 61 pounds respectively. They appeared much larger than their weight indicates as they are very gaunt and thin. Their coats were beautiful, long white fur with a few black hairs along the back. They measured five feet from tip of tail to nose. I photographed one of them.*

*G.W Rice Diary [ P.63] Friday September 23, 1881*



## Lake Alexandra Char — August 1882

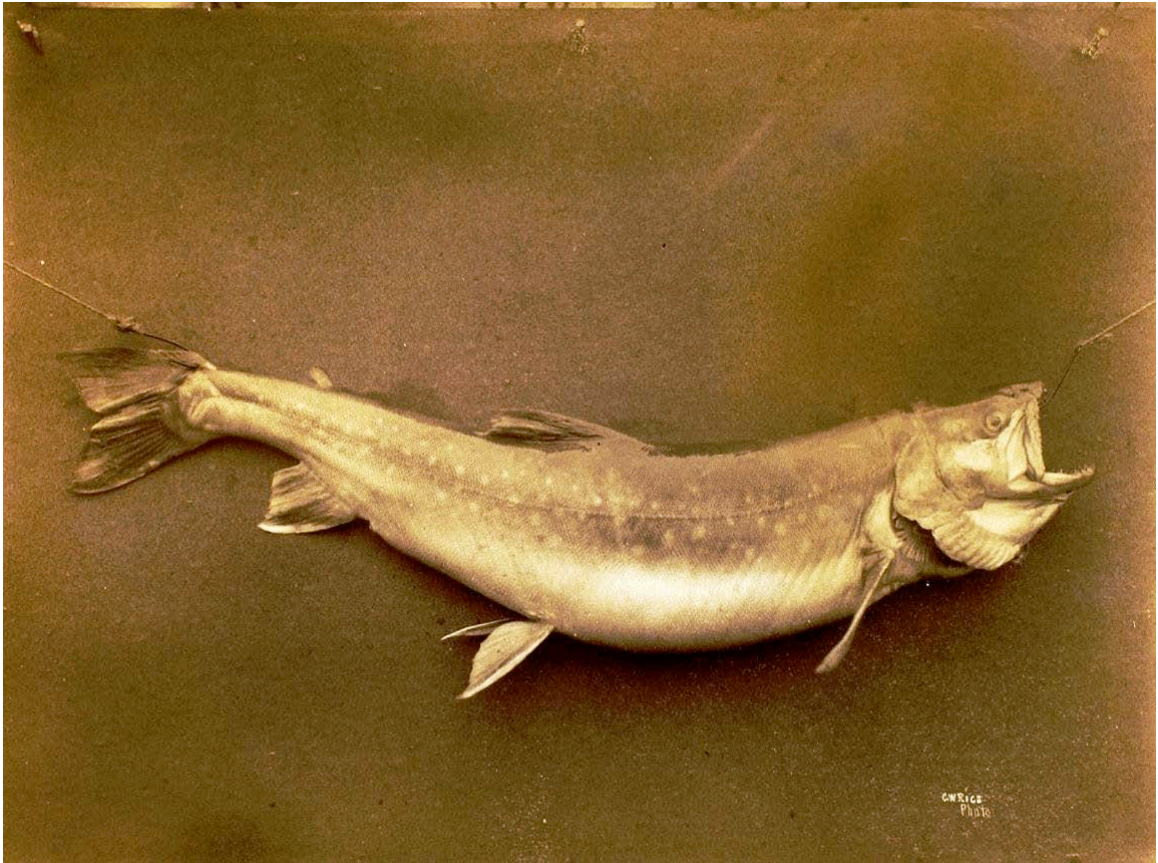


Plate 89., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

*Today Sgt Brainard with a party started for Depot B – Cape Beechy — to bring down the whaleboat. After breakfast, accompanied by Eskimo Fred, I start for Lake Alexandra. I wish to see if trout will not rise to the fly. With a fly hook found at the Greenland Polaris Station and one of my own manufactured from owls feathers I felt quite confident of bringing back some fish. For a rod I had a Signal Staff. Arrived at Lake Alexandra—no fish—Fred in his kayak, overhauled the net, but no result. Shortly after we left the Station it began to snow and continued to do so almost all day. Nice August weather. On our way home, Fred shot a large Usuk seal near the shore, but she sank in a few moments. I have given up the idea of duplicating the splendid fish, already caught in a legitimate way: but can furnish any number of photographic copies of him. I photographed him yesterday after which he was preserved in alcohol—the Commander thinking it was too rare a specimen to be eaten. The weight of one fish is 4 ½ lbs.”*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.210] Friday Aug 25, 1882*



**Three dead musk oxen near Fort Conger— August 1881**



Plate 90., Courtesy LOC

*As the question of our establishing our quarters here or nearer the coal-mine four miles distant was not settled, the ship was allowed to remain quiet until a visit to the coal mine and a knowledge of our prospects should decide the matter. On entering the harbour the Boatswain (Mr. White) Discovered a MuskoX on the side of the hill. He went ashore and killed it. Lockwood, Clay and Ryan killed 10 more. Then L/wood and Clay went to coal mine. Killed 3 more oxen. I photographed ship in ice.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 41] Thursday, August 11, 1881*

*"Photographed the musk oxen as they lay dead".*

*G.W Rice Diary[P. 42] Friday, August 12, 1881*

**Musk Oxen killed on Cairn Hill near Ft. Conger— August 1882**



Plate 91., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right on rock)

*Weather clear. A large musk ox seen on the side hill near the Station and all hands who could get a rifle started for him. Several of the men got the start of me but I reached the scene of action soon enough to be fortunate as to finish the animal with my bullet, although Connell had already wounded him in the foreleg. It was a large bull and the meat alone weighed 432 lbs, head and hide 125 lbs. I photographed him before he was skinned. I am convinced that the musk of this animal is situated in the reproductive organs. I have preserved the penis as a trophy and after preparing it my hands smell of the rankest musk that no amt of soap and water will remove it. I cannot even enjoy a card game in the evening on account of it. Photograph turned out well.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.207] Friday Aug 18, 1882*



**Dead Musk Oxen near Ft. Conger — August 1882**



Plate 92., Courtesy NARA

*“A large musk ox killed by Rice within 1,000 yds. of station today. There was 12 bullets shot into him before he was killed.”*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary [ P.37] August 18, 1882*

**Musk ox killed near Ft. Conger—August 1882**



Plate 93., Courtesy The Explorers Club

*Fine weather. I am busy photographing more Esk relics; also a musk ox head, that of a fierce old looking bull. The filter which I have used to make the water fit for photographic chemical use had got out of order. Yesterday Fredericks and I with the small boat brought two beakers full from Cascade Ravine. While there I went in bathing. Did not stop in the water long however, as I took my ducking off an iceberg and found the water rather cold."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 204] Tuesday Aug 8, 1882*



**Side view of Musk Ox head —August 1882**



Plate 94., Courtesy LOC

*"I photographed one of our "modern" Greenland sledges. I also made another negative of the Musk Ox head."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.204] Friday Aug 11, 1882*

**Sgt. Frederick with Musk Ox calves captured near Ft. Conger— September, 1882.**



Plate 95., Courtesy The Explorers Club

*Friday: "I am packing away some of my photographic apparatus, keeping out the camera and some of the plates, however, to make a negative of the musk calves as soon as the weather is favorable. I find it hard to kill time as I do not wish to tax my eyes too much by reading and studying. Their weakness from last winters strain and the snow blindness of the sledge trip is too apparent. The temperature is getting lower very slowly—today it is max: 23.0; min +16.8. Observed and corrected. The harbor has frozen over and will bear a man's weight on the ice."*

*Saturday: "A beautiful sunshiny day—all the more pleasant when so strikingly contrasted with the execrable weather through which we have just passed. I photographed the musk calves: had great difficulty in getting a negative as the cattle were very restless and the declining sun makes a long exposure necessary. We tried all devices to attract their attention and keep them still. The best plan I found to be that of bringing up one of the dogs which brought them to a stand. Fredericks and Long assisted me. Lt Greely has intended slaughtering those calves but I think has now changed his mind and will try to bring at least some—one or two—of them through the winter by feeding them on hard bread and slops from the tables—they will eat anything."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 212], Sept 8- 9, 1882*

## CHAPTER VI

### LANDSCAPES NEAR FORT CONGER

On several occasions Rice and Gardiner loaded their photographic apparatus on sledges and traveled to some of the closer sites to try to document the landscape. Because of the ruggedness of the interior terrain, Travel was limited primarily to the “icefoot” (the shelf of ice permanently frozen to the shore) or to the frozen sea in the fall or early spring. Rice was able to venture to the far east as Watercourse Bay, the site of the coal seam that supplied them with fuel for cooking and heat throughout the winter and as far west as the opening to valleys that led up into the interior. A number of these images show elements of composition used by the photographers of the West, ie. formal arrangements with an element in the foreground and the placement of the figure or a dog team to provide some degree of scale. Because of the lack of any vegetation Rice had to resort to rocks for his non-human compositional elements, usually with his name inscribed on the negative.

Some of Rice’s photographs required extraordinarily long exposures, some lasting several hours. On the occasion he photographed an ice grotto in Watercourse Ravine the lens cap was left open for an entire day! Without the benefit of exposure meters and fast emulsion, success must have required a great deal of trial and error, and is surprising that Rice’s photographs turned out as well as they did.



## Coal Seam reflection in Watercourse Ravine — October 1882



Plate 96., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower left)

*This a.m. Biederbeck and I go to Watercourse Bay for the photographic apparatus.. I exposed another in the coal seam, 10 minutes, and we then returned to Station. We found the wind draining down the ravine in a disagreeable manner and were made uncomfortable by it. The weather however was fine and the sun skimming along the Greenland shore produced beautiful colors and scenic effects. Temp ranged from -4.6 to -9.5."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 217] Friday October 6, 1882*



**Ice Foot on Watercourse Bay— May 1882**



Plate 97., Courtesy NARA

*Pvts. Long and Whistler returned to Station early this morning. They found one of the cache, but nothing remained of it except some rum and tobacco. They brought the former, a gallon or two, to the Station. Biederbeck and I go to Watercourse Bay with Hudson Bay sledges and photographic outfit. I make negatives of ice subjects.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 178] May 19, 1882*

## Chattel's Grotto, Watercourse Ravine— October 1882

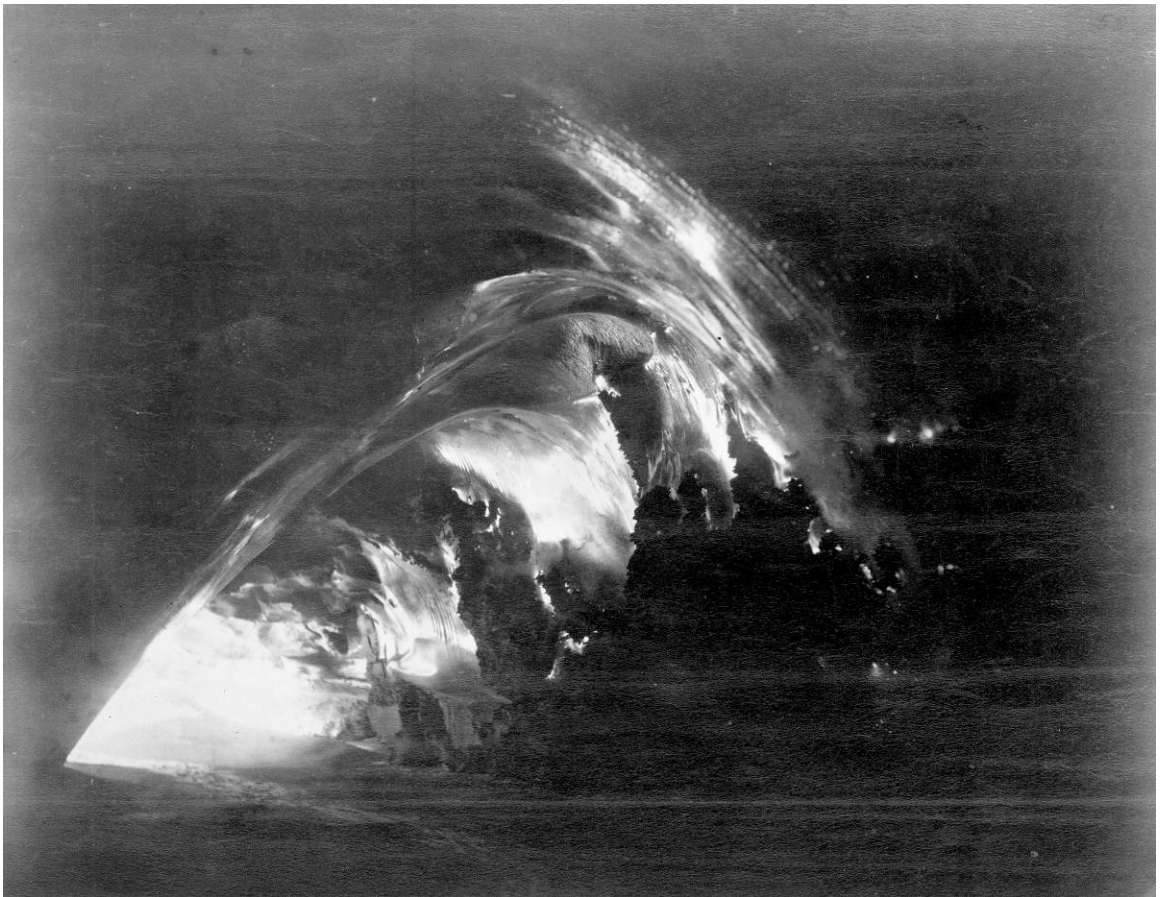


Plate 98., Courtesy LOC

*Sept 30: "This morning Biederbeck and I go to Watercourse Bay to make a negative of the coal mine. We passed through the grotto of snow and ice, in the ravine of the Watercourse—and it presented so unusual an appearance that I decided to photograph it. Owing to the insufficient light—both because of the lateness of the season and the natural darkness of the grotto—I exposed the plate for an impression as long as possible. We allowed the plate to be exposed for about three hours when the light failing we started for home. I left the camera at the grotto as I intend tomorrow to start out at daybreak, expose the plate—another –return home leaving the camera in position thus allowing a whole day for the image to be impinged.*

*Oct 5: The first favorable morning for my photographs at Watercourse Bay since I was there last. I started out at 4:15 am and, reaching the grotto exposed a plate in it, leaving it exposed.*

*Oct 6: This am Biederbeck and I go to Watercourse Bay for the photographic apparatus. The plate has been exposed 30 hours!*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 215- 217] Sep 30, Oct 5, Oct 6, 1882*

**South side of Lake Alexandra— June 1882**



Plate 99., Courtesy LOC

(signed middle bottom on rock)

*Light now began to fall at 8 pm. In the morning Lt Greely and I with Jens and dog team go to Lake Alexandra. I take photographic apparatus and expose some plates on the Lake and its surroundings.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.178] May 29, 1882*



**Lake Alexandra, looking west — June 1882**



Plate 100., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower right)

*Light snow began to fall at 8 pm. In the morning Lt. Greely and I with Jens and dog team go to Lake Alexandra. I take photographic apparatus and expose some plates on the Lake and its surroundings.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.178] Monday May 29, 1882*



**Two men with sledges on the North side of Lake Alexandra, 8 miles from Ft. Conger  
(looking west) — June 1882**



Plate 101., Courtesy LOC

(signed middle bottom)

One of a group of photos Rice took at Lake Alexandra in 1882.

(GEC)

## Lake Alexandra



Plate 102,, Courtesy NARA

**Chandler Fiord, Miller Island in center, South side Archers Fiord in background—  
October 1882**



Plate 103., Courtesy LOC

*Aug 22, 1882: To the south and west extended an immense floe of old ice with an unbroken surface. Sergeant Rice and others thought it had formed here. We had been working our way between the edge of it and the shore. Sergeant Rice took a picture of the view towards Miller Island.*

Excerpt from Lt. Lockwood's report of launch trip up Chandler Fiord, Fort Conger Grinnell Land, October 7, 1882

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1, [P.236] Washington Government Printing Office, 1888

The original photo has sustained serious damage. Note the dark spot in lower, left third of image; could this possibly be the launch, Lady Greely?

(GEC)

**Chandler Fiord, looking westward with Ida Bay to extreme left —August 22, 1882**



Plate 104., Courtesy LOC

*Aug 22, 1882: To the south and west extended an immense floe of old ice with an unbroken surface. Sergeant Rice and others thought it had formed here. We had been working our way between the edge of it and the shore. Sergeant Rice took a picture of the view towards Miller Island.*

Excerpt from Lt. Lockwood's report of launch trip up Chandler Fiord, Fort Conger Grinnell Land, October 7, 1882

Adolphus W. Greely *Report on the Proceedings of the United States Expedition to Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land*, Vol. 1, [P.236] Washington Government Printing Office, 1888

Chandler Fiord taken from Morning Ice westward of Miller Island— at the break in center of picture, Chandler Fiord shows to the west. (GEC)



**View up Bellows Valley — June 1882 (snowing when photographed)**



Plate 105., Courtesy LOC

*Today Jewell and Salor go to Cape Baird. I made preparations to go to Watercourse Bay for some more photographs but weather did not permit. I developed nine plates illustrating lake Alex and surroundings, and the Bellows Valley. They turned out only fair.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.188] Sunday June 4, 1882*

This photo was used as the basis for a diorama of musk oxen at the American Museum of Natural History.

GEC

**Bluffs separating Bellows Valley to right and Black Rock Vale to the left— June 1882**



Plate 106., Courtesy NARA

*Left Station this morning at 12:30 with dog team, Jens driving and accompanied by Private Schneider with team of pups or half grown dogs. Private Biederbeck also goes with me as far as Black Vale which he will travel up one day and rejoin us at his tent in Basil Norris Bay on our return. Found the traveling heavy and was considerably delayed by the necessity to allow Jens to bind up the legs of the pups. The poor mutts have been suffering from a skin disease and the legs of several of them are almost completely devoid of hair. Breaking through the crust their skin was broken and so abraded that the raw flesh was exposed and some of them left blood at every step. Schneider humanely sacrifices part of his shirt which we cut into strips and used for bandages. I amuse myself by driving Jens team part of the way. Until French Cape was passed, but one of us could ride at a time, as the snow was very heavy and we had considerable weight in some canned meat I am to cache up the Bellows, sleeping bags, photographic Equip., etc.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.126] May 31-June 1, 1882*

**View in Bellows Valley—June, 1882**



Plate 107., Courtesy The Explorers Club



**Cliffs named 'Devils Head' in Bellows Valley on the west coast of Lady Franklin Bay—June 1882**



Plate 108., Courtesy NARA

*The temp was +21°—giving the dogs only a few hours to rest I got up at 6:30 and with Jens I started back a short distance to make a photographic view of Devils Head. We had the dog team leaving Schneider behind with his pups. I had exposed several plates by 8 am when I rejoined Schneider on the other side where our meat laid and loading up, we started for the tent in Basil Norris Bay. At different points on the way I stopped to make an exposure wherever the scenery appeared sufficiently striking to warrant it. I made in all 12 views.”*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 126] June 1, 1882*



**Greenland Coast from Cape Beechy—June 1882?**



Plate 109., Courtesy The Explorers Club

## CHAPTER VII

### ICE AND MEN

Anyone who has traveled the arctic has been awed by the immensity and variety of ice formations, which are so unique to this part of the world. One has only to look at the series of “ice” photographs to see that Rice had artistic ambitions that went far beyond a mere accounting or documentation for geographical purposes. In virtually all cases the images are generic and without any specific geographical context. One consistent problem with taking photographs of ice is creating a sense of scale. In modern parlance the structure of ice is “fractal” in that the structure of a given piece of ice is virtually the same regardless of its size. Rice resorted to a common technique to get around this problem by putting a person in the picture with many of the more unusual ice formations. Most of the images of ice with men show an attempt at formal composition and virtually all are signed with Rice’s name, indicating that they were an important part of his work.

Some of Rice’s ice photographs are without a human element and many of them such as “A Discouraging Outlook and “Rubble and Hummocky Ice” are intended to show the extreme difficulty the explorers encountered in trying to travel over the frozen ocean. Little did Rice know at the time he took the pictures that he and the others would be stranded on moving pack ice for the two months it took them to work their way south on their retreat. Other images such as “Twin Berg on the icefoot at Lady Franklin Bay” are a purely esthetic portrayal of light and shadow on the unusual ice formations.

**Split berg with man and snowshoes in 'crack' at Breakwater point, Lady Franklin Bay— June 1882**



Plate 110., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower middle)

*Samples of yellow ice were obtained from the interior of this floeberg, which grounded at Breakwater point, then split. The berg was eighty feet long, forty feet wide and thirty-five feet above the floe...The discolored ice obtained varied in color from light straw color to a darkish yellow. It seemed to be discolored by urine, of which there was a considerable quantity. The marked ice gave out a very marked and disagreeable odor, and left a yellowish deposit as sediment which resembled albumin. Unfortunately its constituents could not be determined at Conger, and the samples were abandoned.*

Greely A.W., *Three years of Arctic Service Vol.II*, [P. 50] Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885



**Outside ice-foot at Distant Cape, Robeson's Channel — June 1882**



Plate 111., Courtesy LOC

(Stw'd Biederbick)

(Signed lower right)

*I found some magnificent subjects and had succeeded in exposing all my plates (12) when Gardiner and Schneider found us on their return from Depot "B". It was about 1 pm. We placed our photographic equipment on the sledge and started (Connell and I) over and across Distant Cape while the sledge as before followed around the coast....We arrived at home Station 4:15 pm. The traveling was very bad. We almost waded from Dutch Island in near Distant Cape.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 191], Sunday June 11, 1882*



**Pressed up floeberg at Breakwater Point, Lady Franklin Bay— June 1882.**



Plate 112., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower middle right.)

*About noon Jewell and I start for the Bellot Island and Breakwater to make photos of some of the interesting subjects that Jewell saw when returning a few days ago from Cape Baird. I found that some of the blocks of ice that had been forced up were of remarkable beauty and striking appearance.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 190 ] Wednesday June 7, 1882*

*The presence of palaeocrystic floes and floebergs in the Arctic seas indicates an Arctic ice- cap which is probably north of the Parry Islands...The largest floebergs cannot pass down Kennedy Channel, which in places is two hundred fathoms deep, but in others much less."*

*Greely A.W., Three years of Arctic Service Vol.II, [P. 60] Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885*

## Floeberg in St. Patrick's Bay— June 1882



Plate 113., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

*This morning the weather is fine and clear and we proceed to expose some plates. I at first obtained a view near St Patrick's Bay and the magnificent pile of ice at its entrance after which we retraced our steps towards Watercourse Bay stopping occasionally to photograph a floe berg or make a view of the Straits. Some of the subjects took some distance from the shore and were approached with difficulty through the deep snow in which we sank to our thighs with every step. It was also difficult to get a secure footing for the camera. Many of the bergs were surrounded by canals of water, like a moat to a castle. I found some magnificent subjects and had succeeded in exposing all my plates (12) when Gardiner and Schneider found us on their return from Depot "B".*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 191] Sunday June 11, 1882*



**Floeberg in Robeson Channel— 1882**



Plate 114., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

**Paleocrystic Block near Distant Cape, Robeson Channel— 1882**



Plate 115., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(Signed lower right)

*Monday June 5, 1882*

*At 8 pm I started with Ellis and Hudson Bay on which I had my photographic outfit for the channel to expose some plates on the floebergs and ice foot. I have selected this time of the 24 hrs so that I can get a suitable light on some striking subjects that I have had in view for some time. Ellis amuses me on the way by a characteristic dissertation on marriage. He claimed to speak on the matrimonial subject from experience (see private journal) The temp now cold enough tonight to allow the moisture to congeal on our beards."*

*Tuesday June 6:*

*Ellis and I get back to station at 3 am. I think I am successful in getting views of the subject I went after but cannot tell until they can be developed."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 189] June 5- 6, 1882*



**Pressed up ice near Lady Franklin Bay — June 1882**



Plate 116., Courtesy LOC

(signed middle bottom)

**Decayed floeberg on west shore of Robeson's Channel — June 1882**

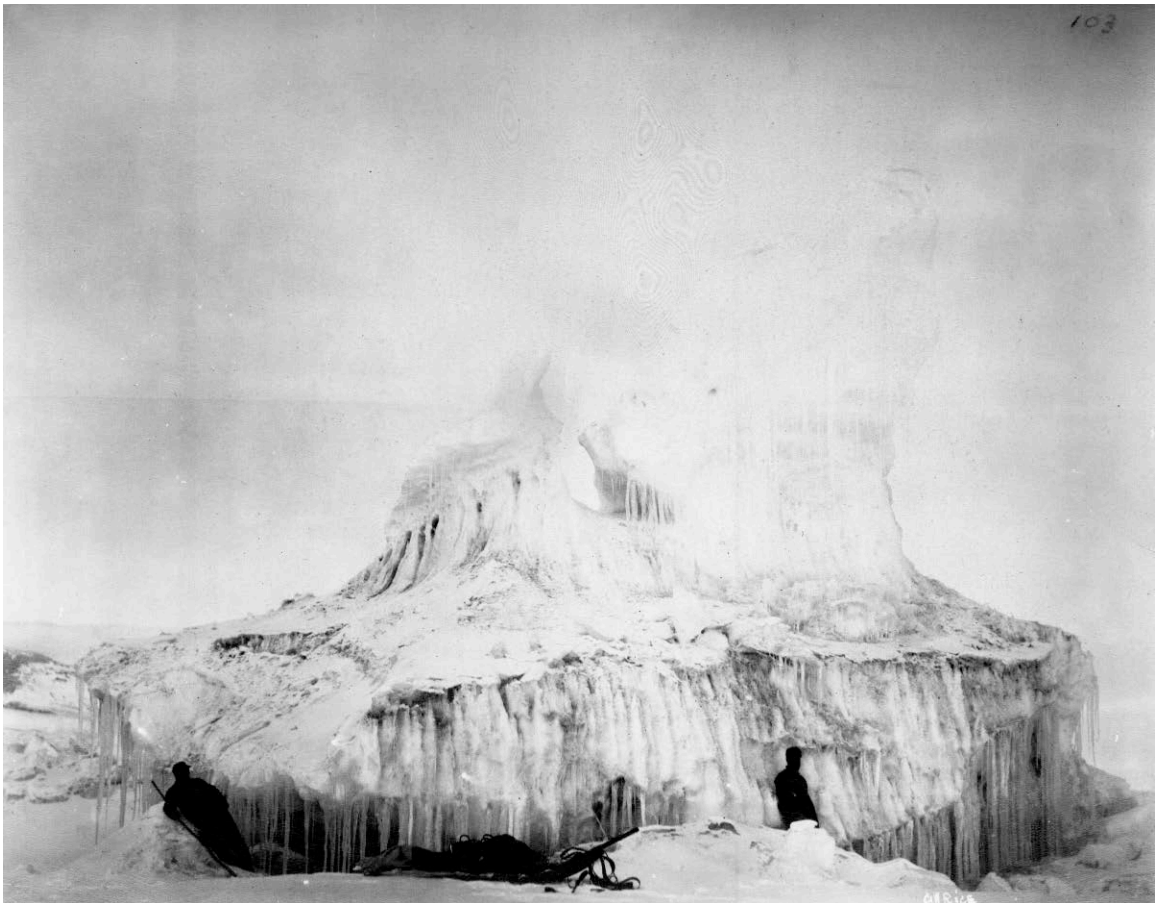


Plate 117., Courtesy LOC

(signed lower right)

*At 8 pm I started with Ellis and Hudson Bay on which I had my photographic outfit for the channel to expose some plates on the floebergs and ice foot.... I have selected this time of the 24 hrs so that I can get a suitable light on some striking subjects that I have had in view for some time."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 189], Monday June 5, 1882*

**A floeberg, “behind the bars” with pendant icicles in Lady Franklin Bay— June 1882**

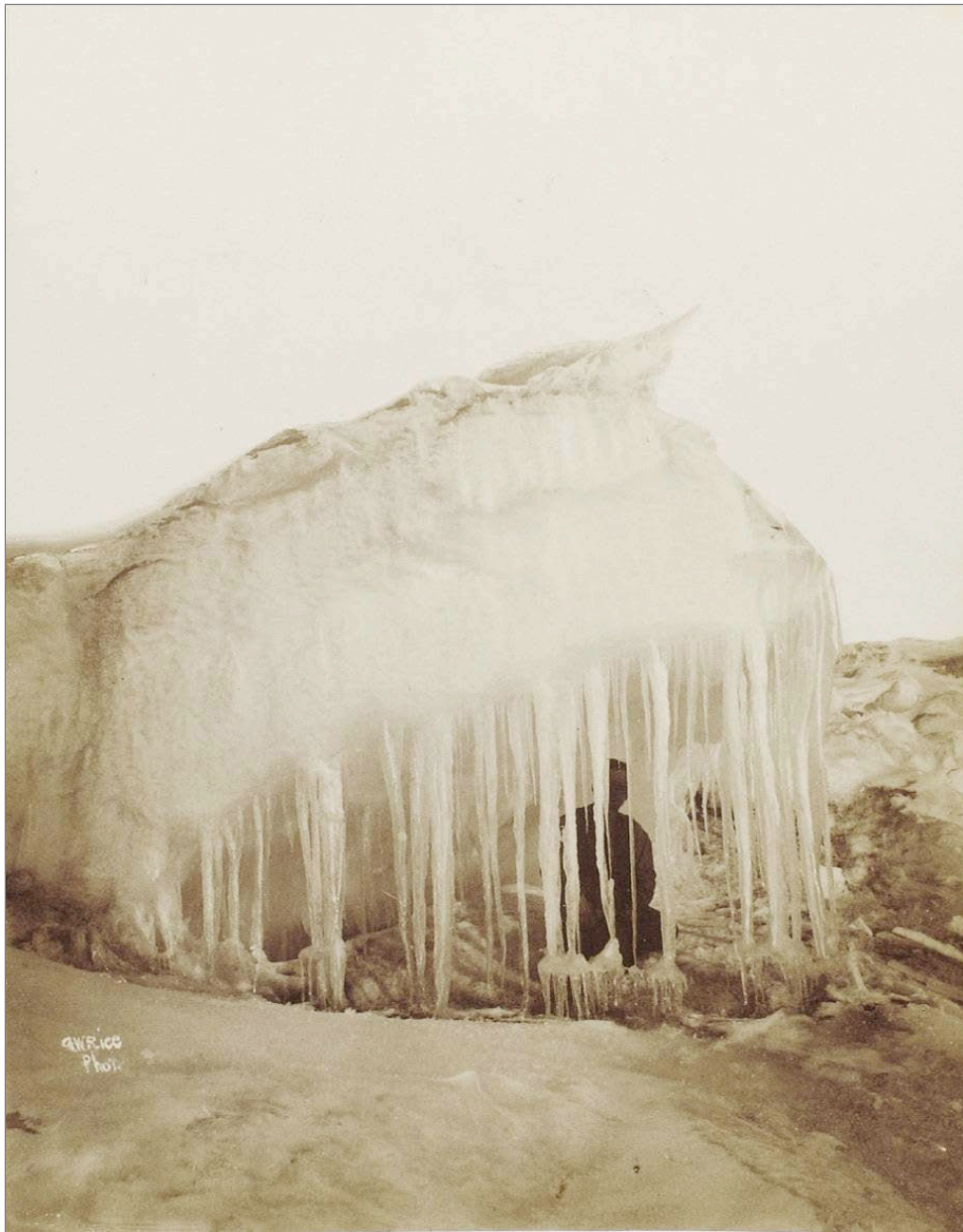


Plate 118., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower left)

*About noon, Jewell and I start for the Bellows Island and Breakwater to make photos of some interesting subjects which Jewell saw when returning a few days ago from Cape Baird. I found some of the blocks of ice that had been forced up of remarkable beauty and striking appearance. One especially was completely fringed with icicles of immense size arranged in regular order. Behind the icicles was a deep cave under the floeberg and for the sake of effect I had Jewell place himself there when I made the negative. I have called the place “An Arctic Prison.”*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P.190] Wednesday, June 7, 1882*



**Pressed up ice and pyramid floeberg at Cape Murchison — June 1882**

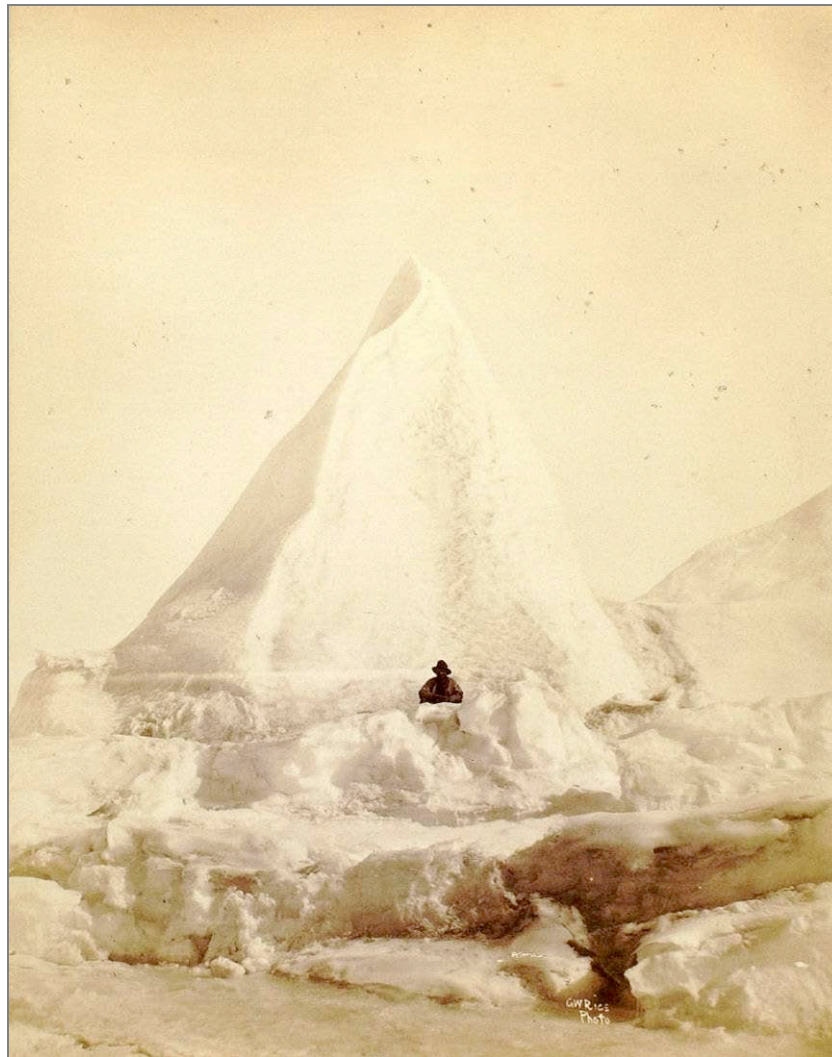


Plate 119., Courtesy The Explorers Club    Pvt. Connell    (signed bottom right)

*The pyramid floeberg, probably broken by great pressure into that shape from a cubical form, was a beautiful piece of ice, a dead opaque white, which, save for a faint bluish tinge, might well have been mistaken for white, unpolished marble."*

Greely A.W., *Three years of Arctic Service* [P. 54, 54]Vol.II, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885

*Reached the tent at Murchison at 4:30 am. Gardiner and Schneider continue on toward Beechey, Connell and I turn in the comfortable sleeping bags, intending, after a short rest, to photograph some of the ice bergs in the vicinity. Waking about 10 am we found the weather too cloudy to permit making the negatives and were compelled to pass the day in sleeping bag. June 11: "This morning the weather is fine and clear and we proceed to expose some plates.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.150] June 10 - 11, 1882*



**The ice foot near Distant Cape, Robeson's Channel— June 1882**



Plate 120., Courtesy The Explorers Club

( Stw'd. Biederbick)

(signed lower right)

*The ice seemed much worse on our return than when going out. This was so especially around Distant Cape where our sled and dogs were continually breaking through. Schneider went in up to his neck and only saved himself from a further wetting by holding fast to the upstandards of the sled and allowing the sled and dogs to drag him out. We frequently broke in to our knees, but fortunately saved our selves from anything further except Schneider.*

*Gardiner Official Diary 1882 [ P.21] June 10, 1882*

**“The Frog”, a paleocrystic floeberg in Robeson Channel — May 1882**



Plate 121., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

*Biederbeck and I go to Watercourse Bay with Hudson Bay sledges and photographic outfit. I make negatives of ice subjects.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 178] Friday May 19, 1882*

*The rapidity with which floebergs melt when grounded has been mentioned in this narrative. In such cases remarkable and irregular shapes succeed which are accurately illustrated...with titles such as “The Frog”, (P.133, Vol I,) Pyramid Floeberg, etc.*

*Greely A.W., Three years of Arctic Service Vol.II, (P. 54, 54) Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1885*

**Whitehall boats in front of station— Aug 1883**



Plate 122., Courtesy NARA



**“Mushroom” ice with man— Greely?**



Plate 123., Courtesy NARA



**“Man on beached ice”**



Plate 124., Courtesy NARA

**Twin bergs on the ice foot at Lady Franklin Bay— September 1881**



Plate 125., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

*Weather fair. Sgt. Rice and Cross went to Water Course Bay this a.m. by way of Dutch Island. They returned about 2.20 p.m. having taken 6 views of Berg etc. They returned by way of the coal mine. Divine service as usual at 10 a.m.*

*H.S. Gardiner Diary [ P.66] Sunday, September 25, 1881*

**Ice foot, unknown location**



Plate 126., Courtesy LOC

(signed)

**Unidentified field of ice**



Plate 127., Courtesy LOC



**Pressed up ice near Water Course Bay, Robeson Channel —1882**



Plate 128., Courtesy NARA

(signed lower right

This photo is believed to have been taken on Rice's trip to Bellot Island and Breakwater Point on Wednesday, June 7, 1882.

(GEC)

**“A Discouraging Outlook”, the view from Cape Murchison to Thank God Harbor—  
June 1882**



Plate 129., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

*Started for Beechey at 12:05 am. in part with Connell, Schneider and Rice with a dog team. Rice broke through the ice before he had gone  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile. He returned to the station to change his clothes. The ice is in very bad condition. A great deal of water lays on top of it and is honeycombed. We arrived at Cape Murchison at 4a.m. and I decided I would go on to Beechey...we slept 8 hours and left Beechey at about 10 a.m. and arrived at Cape Murchison where we picked up Rice's photographic apparatus and started for Conger...The ice seemed much worse on our return than when going out.. Schneider went in up to his neck and only saved himself from further wetting by holding fast to the upstandards of the sled and allowing the dogs to drag him out.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary [P.21] June 10, 1882*

**“Rubble and Hummocky Ice” in Robeson’s Channel — June 1882**



Plate 130., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed)

*The power generated by the rapid motion of immense fields of ice produces under certain conditions, effects and consequences which are almost inconceivable. A field in motion coming against another field results in the instant upheaval and destruction of the edges of the conflicting floes. The deepest floes under run the lighter ice and huge masses, hundreds of tons in weight, are frequently forced upon the other floe... The resulting broken, irregular piles of ice are known as rubble, which is the worst of all ice for travel."*

Greely A.W., *Three years of Arctic Service*, [P. 45] Vol. II Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885



## Ice foot at Cape Murchison — June 1882



Plate 131., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

### *June 9*

*I received orders from Lt. G. to go to Cape Murchison and help Rice make some photographs. Schneider was to go to Beechey starting at the same time and accompanied by Connell. When I arrived at C. Murchison I had my choice of going on to Beechey with the dog team or returning to station."*

### *June 10:*

*Started for Beechy at 12.05 am. in part with Connell, Schneider and Rice with a dog team. Rice broke through the ice before he had gone 1/4 mile. He returned to the station to change his clothes. The ice is in very bad condition. A great deal of water lays on top of it and is honey combed. We arrived at Cape Murchison at 4 am."*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary [ P. 20] June 9 - 10 , 1882*



## Ice foot in Lady Franklin Bay— June 1882

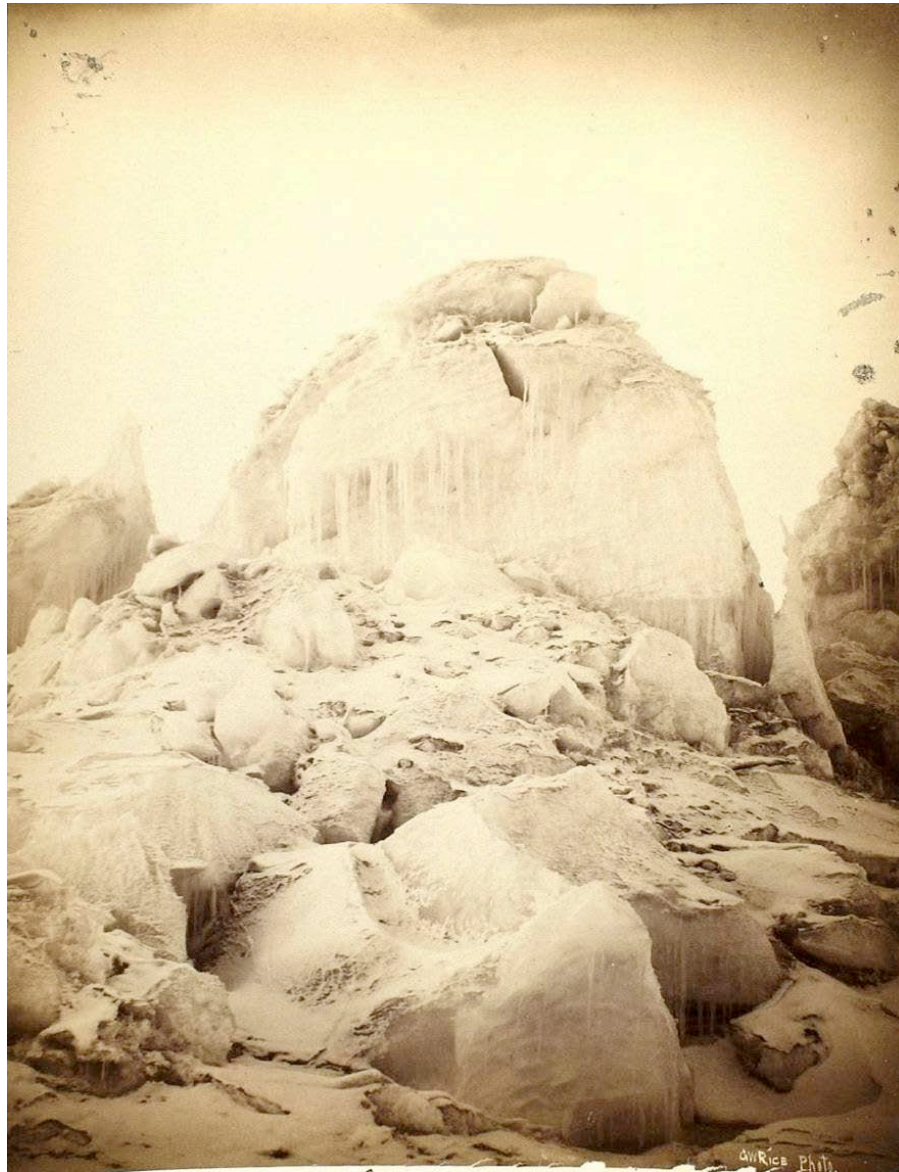


Plate 132., Courtesy The Explorers Club

signed lower right)

*At 8 pm I started with Ellis and a Hudson Bay on which I had my photographic outfit for the channel, to expose some plates on the floebergs and ice foot. I have selected this time of the 24 hrs so that I can get a suitable light on some striking subjects that I have had in view for some time. Ellis amuses me on the way by a characteristic dissertation on marriage. He claimed to speak on the matrimonial subject from experience (see private journal) The temp now cold enough tonight to allow the moisture to congeal on our beard.*

*June 6. Ellis and I get back to station at 3 am. I think I am successful in getting views of the subject I went after but cannot tell until they can be developed."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 189] Monday June 5, 1882*

**Summer Ice near Dutch Island, Lady Franklin Bay**



Plate 133., Courtesy NARA

**Robeson's Channel looking south from Dutch Island — May 1882**



Plate 134..., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)



**Stranded floeberg in Watercourse Bay— September 1881**



Plate 135., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(Signed lower right)

*After breakfast, Cross and I start for Watercourse Bay. We travel by the ice foot, finding the camera, etc. near the picturesque bergs referred to above. I exposed six plates on the best subjects and left the apparatus to be brought in by the returning party with the sledge. We come back overland getting into camp at 2 pm.*

*G.W Rice Diary [P. 63] Sunday, September 25, 1881*



## Floebergs in Watercourse Bay — September 1881

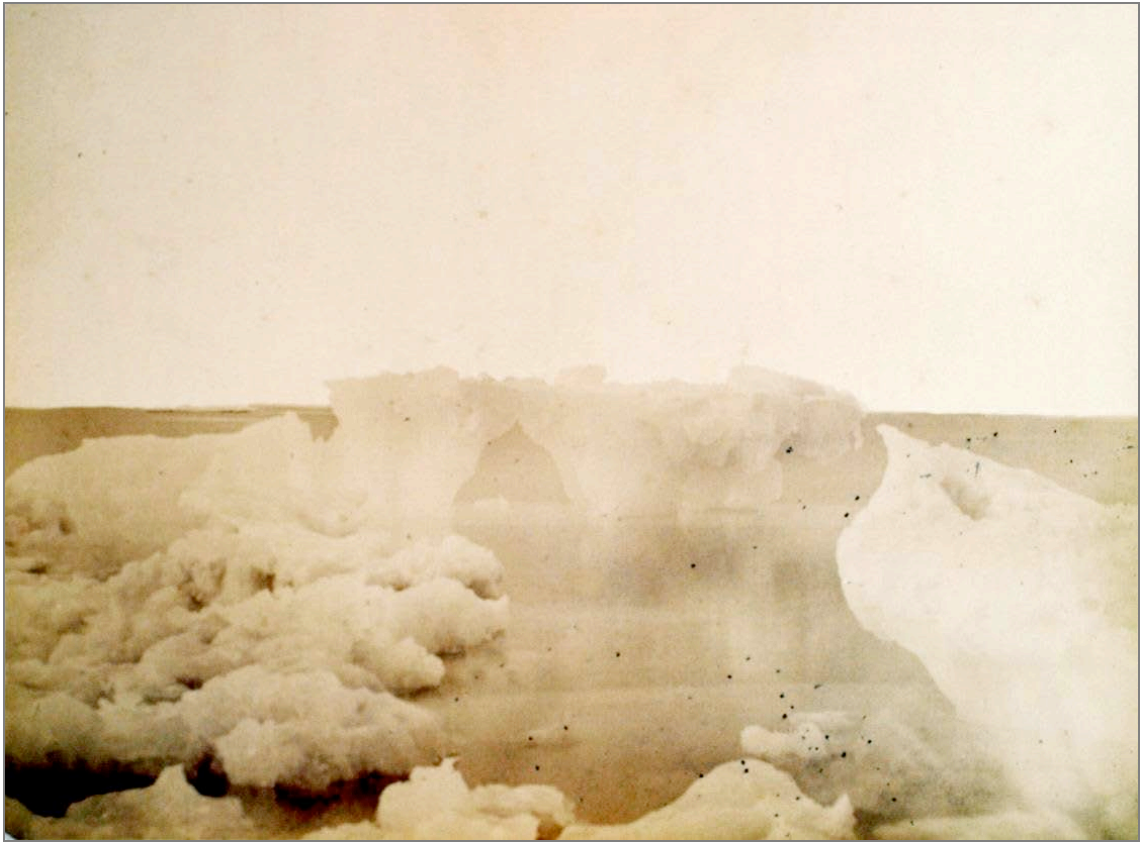


Plate 136., Courtesy NARA

*This morning, the sledge having been repaired, Brainard, Linn and I start to complete the work commenced yesterday. Many noticed several floebergs that would make good subjects for pictures. I took my photographic apparatus along. Left it at Distant Cape as I did not wish to risk it on the other sledge over the icefoot. After assisting ~~Brainard~~ & L over the most difficult of the way, I left them at the entrance of Watercourse Bay, and returned for the photo outfit. By the time I again reached Watercourse Bay where the most striking bergs were, it had commenced snowing and I had succeeded in getting but indifferent light on the subjects. I exposed the plates and leaving the apparatus to be brought in by the sledge I returned to the quarters overland reaching camp at 6 pm.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 62] Wednesday, September 21, 1881*

**Floebergs in Watercourse Bay — 1881? Or *Gulnare* photo**

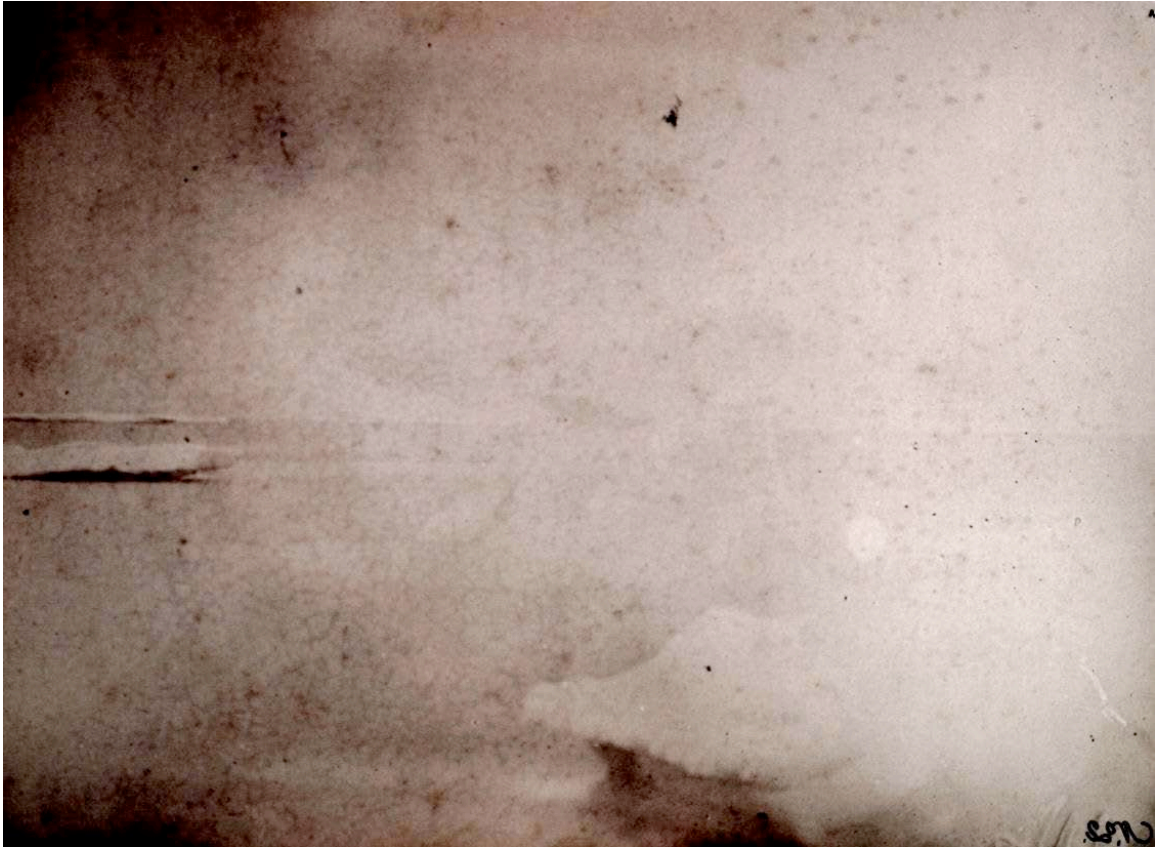


Plate 137., Courtesy NARA

## Floebergs Watercourse Bay, 1881



Plate 138., Courtesy NARA

At times Rice worked under incredibly adverse conditions and with great technical limitations. (GEC)

## CHAPTER VIII

### EXPLORATION

While clearly one of the most important elements of the expedition exploration was virtually impossible to document photographically because of the impracticality of carrying the bulky equipment over long distances. Rice had to resort to taking pictures of the various teams near the Fort Conger station either going out or on their return. In many cases an American flag was affixed to the sled, an emblem of Greely's attempts to expand the American sphere of influence. As Gardiner noted, Greely managed to have himself included in virtually all of these pictures even though he was usually not a member of the party. Clearly he wanted to share in the credit for the result of the exploration, particularly the attainment of the "furthest north".



**Sgt. Cross in hunting costume—1882**



Plate 139., Courtesy LOC

See Greely's, *Three Years of Arctic Service* Vol. II ( P.174-175)

**Lt. Greely and Eskimo Jens with dogs —Discovery Harbor, October 1881**



Plate 140., Courtesy LOC

**Dr. Octave Pavy and team set out from Ft. Conger to lay out a depot on the north Greenland coast— March 5, 1882**



Plate 141., Courtesy LOC

Dr. Pavy, Sgt. David Linn , Jens Edward and Lt. Greely

*It snowed last night but cleared up this morning and Dr. Pavy and Linn with dog team and driver Jens started for Cape Sumner, Greenland to carry provisions for the use of the sledging party which will go in that direction. They started at 7:45 a.m.*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P. 136] Sunday, March 5, 1882*



## Hauling ice at Ft. Conger— March 1882



Plate 142., Courtesy The Explorers Club

(signed lower right)

*I was busy all day making some more photographs and preparing for our start on Saturday. I made one negative of dogs hauling ice which turned out very well the dogs having kept perfectly still during the exposure. Lts. Kislingbury and Greely and also Cross and Jens were included in the group."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [ P.143] March 15, 1882*

**Sgt. Winfield R. Jewell and Eskimo Jens Christiansen starting from Ft. Conger,  
Grinnell Land to support Dr. Octave Pavy — March 1882**



Plate 143., Courtesy LOC

*I exposed some photographic plates under the direction of Sgt. Rice. Making pictures of the teams (two). The Dr. and Rice were with one team with one Eskimo and Jewell and the other Eskimo with the other sled. At 9:30 the party being in readiness they started on their trip to go as far north as possible. Jewell is to accompany them as far as Wrangell or Lincoln Bay and returning to Cape Beechey take load of supplies and cross straits to Greenland shore.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary [P.11] March 19, 1882*

Note A.W. Greely standing prominently in front of the sled, apparently in dress uniform. (GEC)



**Dr. Pavy and party starting for Cape Joseph Henry —March 1882**



Plate 144., Courtesy LOC

*The dogs were weighed today as is everything that is going with the party. The sledge is packed and makes a very big and heavy load...I exposed some photographic plates under the direction of Sgt. Rice. Making pictures of the teams (two). The Dr. and Rice were with one team with one Eskimo and Jewell and the other Eskimo with the other sled. At 9;30 the party being in readiness they started on their trip to go as far north as possible. Jewell is to accompany them as far as Wrangell or Lincoln Bay and returning to Cape Beechey take load of supplies and cross straits to Greenland shore.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary 1882 [ P. 11] March 19, 1882*



## Supporting sledges leaving Ft. Conger for North Greenland — April 1882



Plate 145., Courtesy LOC

Left to right: Lt. A.W. Greely, Pvt. Wm. Whistler, Sgt. D.L. Brainard, Sgt. D.C. Ralston, Pvt. Charles B. Henry, Lt. J.B. Lockwood, Sgt. David Linn, Sgt. Henry Fredericks, Cpl. Joseph Ellison, Steward Henry Biederbick, Cpl. Nicholas Salor, and Pvt. Maurice Connell.

*The Greenland Party busy all day putting finishing touches to outfit and left at 6 Pm. The party consisted of Brainard, Ralston, Linn, Ellison, Salor, Fredericks, Biederbeck, Henry and Whistler. They will be joined at Beechey by Lt. Lockwood, Jewell and Eskimo Fredericks with dog sled. I made photographs of the party having been learned to do so by Sgt. Rice...At 8 Pm. Sgt. Rice and Jens returned, surprising us very much. They brought the broken sled runner from Lincoln Bay where they had left Dr. Pavy with the team in camp until they could return with new runner. Rice brought in a fox which he found dead in Water Course Bay. Probably frozen. Rice made a wonderful trip. Rice reports having been to the Alert headquarters with supplies and having returned to Lincoln Bay for more when their sled runner broke. Cross and Bender commenced work immediately on new runners and worked all night.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary [P. 13] April 3, 1882*

**Lt. J. B. Lockwood, Sgt. David L. Brainard and Eskimo Frederick leave Ft. Conger on April 3, 1882. They reached 83° 24' North latitude 40° 46' W. Longitude.**



Plate 146. , Courtesy LOC

*The Greenland Party busy all day putting finishing touches to outfit and left at 6 Pm. The party consisted of Brainard, Ralston, Linn, Ellison, Saler, Fredericks, Biederbeck, Henry and Whistler. They will be joined at Beechey by Lt. Lockwood, Jewell and Eskimo Fredericks with dog sled. I made photographs of the party having been learned to do so by Sgt. Rice.*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary 1882 [P.13], April 3, 1882*

**Lockwood, Jewell and Eskimo Christiansen leave Ft. Conger with dog team —April 1882**



Plate 147., Courtesy LOC

*Cross finished sled runner and Rice having showed me how to change the photographic plates. Lt. Lockwood and Jewell with Eskimo and team started for Beechey at 8 Pm. They carried the sled runner to that place where Rice will get it and carry it on to Lincoln Bay."*

*H.S. Gardiner Official Diary [P.13] April 4, 1882*

Greely was in many photos regardless of whether he was part of the expedition party.

(GEC)



**Pvt. Francis Long and Pvt. William Whistler starting from Ft. Conger down to Archer Fiord to examine the English depot— May 15, 1882**



Plate 148., Courtesy LOC

*May 15, 1882*

*Long has obtained permission to make a few days trip down to Archer's Fiord to see if he can find the cache found by the English party when exploring the Fiord. Whistler accompanied him. They started today."*

*May 19, 1882*

*Pvts. Long and Whistler returned to Station early this morning. They found one of the cache, but nothing remained of it except some rum and tobacco. They brought the former, a gallon or two, to the Station."*

*G.W. Rice Diary [P. 178] Monday May 15, 1882*

**Lt. Greely and party starting for the exploration of Grinnell Land— April 1882**



Plate 149., Courtesy LOC

*Although fully impressed with the importance of an Arctic commander's remaining at his station or ship, the condition of affairs at this time was so favorable that I decided to absent myself for a period of 15 days...The means of transportation were to be two Hudson Bay sledges, one of which was to be drawn as far as was convenient and then abandoned. The weights of these sledges were not to exceed, with their loads, four hundred and fifty pounds on leaving the depot at Sun Bay, which would be a comparatively light load for myself and the three men who were to accompany me...Privates, Biederbick, Connell and Whisler were selected to accompany me, but owing to Pvt. Biederbicks suffering exceedingly from a toothache, he was replaced at the last moment by Bender, who, although exceedingly anxious for field services, had been pronounced by the surgeon unfit for it. In order to save the strength of my party on the starting, Sgt. Cross and Private Long were taken one march beyond the depot at Sun Bay. At 12:30 A.M. of the 26<sup>th</sup> the party left Conger, the temperature then standing at -7° (-21.7° C.)*

Greely A.W., *Three years of Arctic Service Vol. I*, [P. 259, 260] Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885

**Dogs and sled on ice—April 1882**



Plate 150. , Courtesy NARA

Possible second photo taken of Greely party leaving for Grinnell Land in April 1882.

(GEC)



**Fort Conger area, “A short trip with dog sled” —1882**



Plate 151., Courtesy AMHI

## **RICE PHOTO REPOSITORIES**

## List of Photo Repositories for Rice photographs and the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition 1881-1884

### National Archives (NARA II)

Address:

Washington, D.C. area

National Archives at College Park

8601 Adelphi Road

College Park, MD 20740-6001

[www.archives.gov/dc-metro](http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro)

Customer Service Center Telephone Number: 1-866-272-6272

### Still Photo Section

1. Record Group 111SC (Signal Corps Photographs of American Military Activity, 1754- 1954) ARC 530707.

This is the most comprehensive collection of Rice photographs in the still photo section. They are primarily in boxes 709, 710. Each photograph is mounted on a standard cardboard record sheet with a typed description column, not always apparently accurate. Each photograph has an identifying number which may or may not be on a copy negative from which the photograph was made. In a few cases there are duplicate photographs in a series with different numbers. Photos from RG11NSC...are identified thus: RG111SC #, #, #, #, #, #

2. RG11-RB ("Red Book photographs") ARC identifier 530704.

These have "RB" numbers usually, but not always, followed by an RG111SC number found under the photograph, which corresponds to the number in the 111SC series. Photos from this group are identified thus: RB #, #, #, #, #, (5 numbers)-SC #, #, #, #, # (6 numbers). If there is an SC number, otherwise RB #, #, #, # (4 numbers).

NARA II photo Section: Red Book

111-RB Box #3 (Greenland and Lady Franklin Bay Expedition) Prints made for the Signal Corps. Prints from the numbered negatives I believe were been made by Greely as he knew everybody in the pictures.

- RB2586—Signal Corps 91120—: Ft. Conger five days old August 17, 1881 figures from the right to left; Lt. Greely, Corporal Joseph Elison, Sgt. Fredrick on the ground and Pvt. Whistler, Pvt. Bender and Lt. Kislingbury on the rt.
- RB2587—SC 91110—; old family residence of Mrs. Fliescher. ----with Lt. FF Kislingbury, on the grass to the rt.
- RB2588:—SC 91114 which is Upernavik, Greenland in July 1881:
- RB2589 —SC91194 Northeast side of Discovery Harbor between Proteus Pt. and Dutch Island with steamer *Proteus* in foreground.



- RB2589 — SC91194; Lady Franklin Bay , June 1882 Private William A. Ellis Second Infantry, Ice foot and pressure ice.
- RB2590: “Discouraging Outlook” from Cape Murchison toward Thank God Harbor, June 1882.
- RB2591—SC91113: Steamer *Proteus* stopped by ice north of Cape Lieber, August 1881. Paleocrystic ice flow: several square miles in extent and fifty feet thick.
- RB2592: Steamer *Proteus* first stopped by ice near Cape Lieber ,LAT 81-35 N. Moored to paleocrystic flow several square miles in extent and about 50 feet thick.
- RB2593— SC91627 proven North Greenland, July 1881 Eskimo kayaks, skin boats, elevated so as to be out of reach of the dogs eating them.
- RB2594—SC91111-91639 Rittenbank, Greenland July 22, 1881
- RB2595—SC91228: Cape Hawk, Cane Sea
- RB2596 —SC91238: Flowberg, Cape Murcheson entrance to St. Patrick’s Bay
- RB2597: Expeditionary stores on steamer *Proteus*, Ft. Conger Aug 17, 1881
- RB2598 —SC91171:Game stand, Ft. Conger August,1881 with *Proteus* and Belle Isle in the background
- RB2599—SC91123: Bellot Island Cape Baird in background, game stand and Ft. Conger in foreground, October 1881 [has Lt. Lockwood leaning against the game stand and what I believe are dogs blurred in the foreground].
- RB2601—SC91118: Fort Conger three days old
- RB2600—Hauling floeberg ice for drinking purposes at Ft. Conger in March 1883, figures from the right to the left; Lt. Kislingbury, Sgt. Cross, Lt. Greely, Eskimo Jens.
- RB2602—SC91149; Proven North Greenland June 27. 1881, Notice houses in foreground, a superb print.
- RB2603—SC91193: “Birdcage”, stranded iceberg with pendant icicles.
- RB2604—SC91208 Icefoot near Distant Cape, Robeson Channel, May 1882
- RB2605: Floeberg near Distant Cape, Robeson Channel, May 1883 [has rifle stacked up to left and a hole in the floeberg, signed by Rice on rt]

- RB2606: Sea face of ice foot near Distant Cape, Robeson Channel. Hospital steward Henry Beiderbeck in foreground. [Perhaps this is the one that Operti used]
- RB2607: bearded or square flipper seal (*Erignathus barbatus*) killed near steamer *Proteus* in Smith Sound, July 1881.
- RB2608—SC91161: Polar bear on *Proteus* killed south of Cape York July 1881.
- RB2609—SC91221: Washington Irving Island, off Cane Sea opposite Cape Hawks with floating birds in foreground.
- RB2610—SC91626 also 91112: Discovery Harbor cairn, erected by the English in 1875 in the foreground on the extreme left of Point Bellot Island to the left of the highest Mountain on Sun Mountain peninsula. To the rt. black 2,000 feet high , French Cape rising point on extreme rt. hides entrance to Distant Bay.
- B2611-2612 apparently missing, 2611— RB2613-SC9158 remains of the “Polaris House” at Lifeboat Cove near Littleton Island, July 1881. This house was constructed from the wrecked steamer *Polaris* in 1872-3 by the crew of the Hall expedition.
- RB2614—SC91212: Natural rock monument, Disco Island, July 1881. Sitting are Dr. Octav Pavy and the engineer of the *Proteus*.
- RB2615—SC91183: Proven , North Greenland. Eskimo house, partially underground with a group of native women on its flat roof.
- RB2616—SC91175: Head of musk ox killed near Lady Franklin Bay in 1882.
- RB2617: Musk calves about 5 months old Ft. Conger in October, 1882 and Sgt. JR Fredrick of the Signal Corps.
- RB2612: Dead musk ox on southwest side of Mt. Cartnell overlooking Lady Franklin Bay August 13, 1881. No SC number
- RB2655—SC91182: Group of Eskimos in Greenland [the latter in AWG’s]

### 3. RG27-GO (Records of the Weather Bureau 1735-1979) ARC identifier 513269.

There are three boxes in this record group. Box 1 contains materials that Adolphus W. Greely apparently used in preparation of his book, “*Three Years of Arctic Service*”. Box 2 contains a small number of Rice photographs of exceptional quality as they appear to be original albumin prints, presumably from the original glass plates as there are no 111SC numbers. They are identified thus: RG27-GO2A- #, #.

4. RG27, formerly RG200 (Collection of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition) ARC identifier 558748. [Locator stack 130, row 76, compartment 2, shelf 3 and row D compartment 3, shelf 3]

This consists of three boxes of photographs, mostly albums and some loose prints. All the Lady Franklin Bay photographs are in box 1, and mostly in albums with captions presumably by David Brainard. The prints are not very good and this material is of interest primarily because of Brainard's captions. The second box contains photographs of the Greely Relief Expedition of 1884. Box 3 contains much interesting material including portraits of all of the expedition members, presumably taken in Washington D.C. at Moses Rice's studio.

5. RG111-AG (Photographs collected by Adolphus W. Greely) ARC identifier 524379.

This large collection does NOT contain any photographs by Rice but does include many photographs associated with the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition including photographs of the survivor's reception in Portsmouth, celebrations at Newburyport and other activities. It also contains many photographs related to Greely's later career.

6. RG401-XPX-1889-1898 (Peary Family Collection); photographs relating to Admiral Peary's 1898-1902 expeditions to Greenland and Ellesmere Island. ) ARC identifier 559445.

This collection does not contain any Rice photographs, but does contain a few interesting photographs taken at Fort Conger fifteen years after its abandonment including a "before and after" after Peary demolished the structure to make his own winter quarters. Also included are photos of Cape Sabine and environs.

## **Archive Section NARA II**

RG27 (Records of the Weather Bureau-correspondence reports, also scientific records of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition 1881-1886) Box17 [Finding aid entry 138, ID 64453, RG27, stack area 130, row 16, compartment 8-9, shelf 05-01]

This group of fifty original albumin prints included with the other official records of the expedition. The prints are of generally excellent quality.

**Library of Congress Photo Section (LOC)**

Address:

101 Independence Ave, SE

Washington, DC 20540

[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

Tel: (202) 707-5000

Lot 4262. Title, Documentary photographs of the U.S expedition Lady Franklin Bay Grinnell Land 1881-1884 .Photos taken by Sergeant George W. Rice, Signal Corps.

This consists of 103 original albumin prints. They are in a sequence numbered from 1 through 129, plus four other photographs with either no number or letters assigned. There are 33 numbers scattered through the listing that were either unassigned or are missing from the series. There is no apparent order, chronological or otherwise. Most of these prints are of very high quality. Many of them have had 8x10 copy negatives made as well as extremely high resolution Tiff files which are available for downloading. They are identified as follows: LOC group 4262, number.

**U.S. Army Military History Institute (AMHI)**

Address:

Carlisle Barracks

Carlisle, PA 17013

Tel.(717) 245-3971Carlisle Barracks

In the photo archive section there are four photo albums containing (120) 5x9 sepia photos with captions. This collection is titled "Photographs made during the International Polar Expedition 1881-1884 to Lady Franklin Bay, George W. Rice photographer." According to a notation in one of the albums this collection was donated by Adolphus W. Greely and many of the captions are clearly in his hand.\* Also of interest in the photo archives are eleven albums containing 330 9x6 and other sizes sepia photographs with captions titled, "Photographs made during the course of the Greely Relief Expedition.", 1883-1884, listed under W.S. Schley, the expedition commander. As the photographs in the Rice collection are not numbered they are simply identified as AMI.

**Photographic Section, Naval History and Heritage Command; (NHHC)**

805 Kitter Breese South East,

Washington Navy Yard,

Washington, D.C. 20374-50.

This extensive collection of photographs deals primarily with the Greely rescue expedition commanded by W.S. Schley. The prints are generally of high quality and mounted on cardboard with accompanying captions. They are part of the "900,000 Series." Photographs from this repository are identified as NHHC.



**The Explorers Club (EC)**

Address:

The Explorers Club  
46 E. 70th Street ,  
New York, NY 10021  
[www.explorers.org](http://www.explorers.org)  
Tel: 212-717-1585

A collection of original albumin prints is in an album compiled by the Chief Signal Officer's library during 1888, while Adolphus W. Greely was the CSO. It consists of 48 excellent albumin prints with captions in good condition, arranged in no particular order. Additional photo copies of these prints have been made. Photographs from this collection are identified as EC-AWG

In the collected papers of Albert Operti, arctic Artist, there is an album containing photographs labeled as being taken by George Rice on the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition. This includes one photograph of the *Gulnare* in Godhaven in 1880, several clearly the LFB Expedition, [\*The photographs appear to be albumin prints from the original glass plates.] and two unique photographs which may have been taken on either expedition. Photos from this group are labeled EC-AO

**Dartmouth College**

Rauner Special Collections  
Dartmouth College Library, 6065 Webster Hall  
Hanover, NH 03755-3519  
603-646-2037

## **LIST OF RICE PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES**

## **Preliminary Photographs From The *Gulnare* Expedition Of 1880**

Unless otherwise noted, all photos are located in the Dartmouth College, Rauner Special Collections Stef Mss-239

Plate 1. *Gulnare* in St. John's Harbor—July 1880

Plate 2. *Gulnare* in Godhaven Harbor— August, 1880  
Repository: EC-AO, LFB Photos

Plate 3. Godhaven, Greenland—August 1880

Plate 4. Eskimo Kayakers off coast of Disco Island —1880

Plate 5. Eskimo kayaks and skin boats, Disco Island, Greenland—August 1880

Plate 6. Eskimo maidens on Disco Greenland, *Gulnare* in background—1880

Plate 7. *Gulnare* party mining coal at Kidlisset, Greenland—August 1880

Plate 8. *Gulnare* party mining coal at Kidlisset #2, Greenland—August 1880  
AMHI

Plate 9. *Gulnare* navigates icebergs off Greenland coast—August 1880

Plate 10. Icebergs off Greenland—1880

Plate 11. Greenland icebergs at 10 p.m.—1880

Plate 12. Icebergs off Kidlisset, Greenland—August 1880

Plate 13. Curious formations of ice off Kidlisset, Greenland—August 1880

Plate 14. Ice near shore #1—1880  
Explorers Club NYC: EC-AO

Plate 15. Ice near shore #2—1880  
Explorers Club NYC:EC-AO

## **Expedition of 1881; St. Johns to Discovery Harbor**

Plate 16. *Proteus* (right) at dock in St. Johns, Newfoundland — July 7, 1881

Repository:

-NHI 900,000 series

Plate 17. *Proteus* at Disco Island, Godhaven Harbor — July 1881

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 121 "*Godhavn, Disco Island*"

- NARA RG111 SC #91147, "*Proteus* at Godhaven, Disco Island."

Plate 18. *Proteus* at Disco Island, Godhaven Harbor — July 1881

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Image #120, 136193 "*Proteus at Disco Island.*"

-NARA RG111 SC #91148

Plate 19. Governor and family at Godhaven, Greenland — Summer 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG 27 Box 17

-NARA RG111 SC #91110

-NARA RG111 RB#2587-Box 3

Plate 20. Rittenbenk Greenland, July 1881

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Image # 110...136195 "Rittenbenk"

-NARA RG 27 Box 17 , "Greenland Harbor"

-NARA RG111, SC 91153

- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AO

Plate 21. *Proteus* anchored off a foggy Disco Island with Dr. Pavy in rowboat — July 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG 111 SC # 91164

-NARA RG 111 RG # 2614

-LOC Lot 4262 – Rice Image # 118 "*Proteus* in fog."

Plate 22. Pavy and crew member on Disco Island— Summer 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG 27 box 17 "*Devils Thumb with Pavy*"

-NARA RG111, SC #91212, "*Natural monument on Disco Island near Godhavn, Dr. Pavy and Proteus engineer.*"

-AMHI "*Natural monument, Dr. Pavy with gun*"

-LOC Lot 4262 -Rice, Image #25, 136206

-Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG # 25

Plate 23. Upernavik Greenland, July 1881

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Image # 106 —"*Upernavik, July 1881*"

-NARA RG 111 SC # 91151

-NARA RG 111RB # 91151

Plate 24. Pvt. Charles B. Henry (leaning in doorway) at Upernavik Greenland— July 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG SC 111 # 91124



Plate 25. Greenland Village -1881

Repository:

- NARA RG111, SC#91125,
- RG27 Box 17, Red Book original print

Plate 26. Proven, North Greenland — July 26, 1881

Repository:

- AMHI
- NARA RG 27 Box 17
- LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Image #4
- NARA RG 111SC #91149
- NARA RG 111RB #2602
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG Plate# 4

Plate 27. G.W. Rice and Greenland Eskimo women in Proven Greenland, July 1881

Repository:

- NARA RG 17
- AMHI Image #18
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AO

Plate 28. Lt. Lockwood and Eskimo with Kayaks, Proven Greenland — July 1881

Repository:

- NARA RG 27, Box 17
- AMHI
- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image

Plate 29. Proven, Greenland native children with kayak — July 27, 1881

Repository

- AMHI
- LOC lot 4262 –Rice Image # 7 38037
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG Image # 7
- NARA RG111 SC # 91179 and #91027

Plate 30. Inuit Children with kayaks, Proven Greenland — July 7, 1881

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262 -EC-Rice Item # 108
- NARA RG111 SC #91180

Plate 31. Eskimo women, Proven Greenland— July 1881

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262 – Rice Image # 8 100048
- Explorers Club: EC-AWG # 8

Plate 32. Eskimo Women 32, Proven, Greenland— July 1881

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image # 107

Plate 33. Proven Greenland, July 1881

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image# 18
- Explorers Club: EC-AWG # 15

- Plate 34. Polar Bear aboard *Proteus* in Baffin Bay— July 1881  
 Repository:  
 -AMHI  
 -LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Image# 37  
 -Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG, Plate#37
- Plate 35. Square flipper seal aboard *Proteus*, shot on ice in Baffin Bay— July 1881  
 Repository:  
 -LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Image #36  
 -Explorers Club; EC-AWG , Plate# 36
- Plate 36. English Cairn on S.E. Cary Island — July 1881  
 Repository:  
 -LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Image #113  
 -NARA RG111 SC # 91210.
- Plate 37. East end of Lyttleton Island with Lifeboat Cove in distance— August 1881  
 Repository:  
 -LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Image # 77  
 NARA RG111 SC # 91225
- Plate 38. Life Boat Cove, August 1881  
 Repository:  
 -LOC lot 4262 -Rice group Image # 122  
 -NARA RG111 SC #91226
- Plate 39. Site of Polaris house, occupied in 1872, on Life Boat Cove— July 1881  
 Repository:  
 -NARA SC111 #91158- *Polaris* wreck camp  
 -AMHI  
 -NARA RG27 Box 17 *Polaris* wreck camp  
 -LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image # 23  
 -Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG Plate#23
- Plate 40. Crystal Palace Cliffs from Littleton Island with Cape Alexander to the right and Distant Cape 12 miles due south— August 1881  
 Repository:  
 -NARA RG 27 Box17  
 -LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image #1  
 NARA RG111 SC# 91214.  
 -Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG Plate #1  
 -AMHI #91 on photo
- Plate 41. *Proteus* anchored at Cape Hawks with northern shore of Dobbin Bay on extreme right — August 1881  
 Repository:  
 -NARA Signal Corp: # 91167  
 -LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # [6?](#) [11026](#)  
 -RG 27 Box 17, “*Proteus* at cape Hawks.”  
 -AMHI  
 -Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG, Image, Plate # 6
- Plate 42. *Proteus* at Cape Hawks— August 1881  
 Repository:  
 -NARA SC RG 111SC # 91114  
 -RG 27 Box 1728.

Plate 43. Cape Hawks, August 1881

Repository:

- NARA Signal Corps RG27 Box 17
- LOC Lot 4262-Ricer Image # 21 "Cape Hawks"
- NARA RG 111SC, #91228
- Explorers Club NYV, EC-AWG Plate #21 "Cape Hawks"

Plate 44. English Depot from Morning Ice, just north of Cape Hawks— August 1881

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image #111
- NARA RG111 SC # 91222 — "*English Depot just north of Cape Hawks, Aug 1881 from Morning Ice.*"

Plate 45. General View to the North from a point in Kane's Sea about 12 miles east of Victoria Head with Washington Irving Island in center and Cape Hawks the prominent point.

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image #80
- NARA RG111 SC # 91220

Plate 46. Washington Irving Island, Kane Sea, August 1881

Repository:

- NARA RG111 SC #91221
- NARA RG 27 Box 17 Washington Irving Island
- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 14
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 14-

Plate 47. Bache Island from Kane Sea, August 1881

Repository:

- NARA RG111, SC #91218
- LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image # 79. "Bache Island"

Plate 48. North side Carl Ritter Bay, August 1881

Repository:

- LOC lot 4262-Rice Image# 123
- NARA111, SC # 91230 — "Carl Ritter Bay north side."

Plate 49. Lt's. Kislingbury & Lockwood -Courtesy Douglas Wamsley  
"On the ice at Cape Baird", August 5, 1881

Plate 50. "Hard Road to Travel"- from Cape Murchison looking towards Cape Lieber.

Repository:

- NARA RG 27 Box 17
- NARA RG111, SC #91211— "Hard Road to Travel"
- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 20, LC 136198
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO, Plate # 20

Plate 51. *Proteus* first stopped by ice at Cape Baird, August 1881

Repository

- NARA RG 27 Box 17 (# 50)
- NARA RG111, SC # 91130
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AO

## **Fort Conger Construction**

Plate 52. *Proteus* in Discovery Harbor, August 1881

Repository:

-AMHI # 29

-NARA RG111, SC #91165

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 119 , 136192

Plate 53. English Cairn at Discovery Harbor— August 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG111 SC #—

-NARA RG 27 Box 17— English Post office Cairn

Plate 54. Cairn erected by former English Expedition at site of Ft. Conger, Discovery Harbor, Bellot Island in background — August 14, 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG111, S C # 91115

-AMHI #23 on photo

Plate 55. Discovery Harbor with stores, game stand and lumber.

Bellot Island is in background — August 1881

Repository:

-AMHI , Image# 24

-NARA RG111, SC #91150

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice image # 89, 136211

Plate 56. Discovery Harbor with stores, game stand and *Proteus*— August 1881

Repository:

-AMHI # 26

-NARA RG111 SC # 91144

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image #91, 136194 “Stores Game stands, *Proteus*”

Plate 57. *Proteus* at Discovery Harbor with bow pointing right— August 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG111 SC # 91145

-AMHI

-LOC lot 4262,Rice Image# 119

Plate 58. Discovery Harbor; game stands with Musk Oxen and

*Proteus* in background— August 1881

Repository:

-AMHI #27

-NARA RG111 SC #91121

-NARA RG 27 Box 17

Plate 59. Discovery Harbor with game stands and stores , August 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC # 91123

-NARA RG27 Box 17 “Game stand with Lockwood”

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Item #124, “Stores, game stand”



- Plate 60. Discovery Harbor with barrels and stores in foreground and Fort Conger construction in background— August 1881  
Repository:  
- NARA RG111 SC # 91146  
-LOC lot 4262- Rice Image # 124, 95945 :
- Plate 61. Discovery Harbor with *Proteus* to left and supplies on shore— August 1881  
Repository:  
-NARA RG111, SC #91117  
-NARA RG27 Box 17
- Plate 62. Discovery Harbor with stores and framed Ft. Conger —August 1881  
Repository:  
-NARA RG111, SC #9116  
-NARA RG27 Box 17  
-AMHI: “The building of Ft. Conger, Aug 1881”
- Plate 63. Fort Conger under construction at Discovery Harbor— August 1881  
Repository:  
- NARA RG111, SC  
-NARA RG 27 Box 17, Ft. Conger framing #1
- Plate 64. Discovery Harbor; Fort Conger being framed with *Proteus* in background— August 1881  
Repository:  
-NARA RG111, SC# 91157  
-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 88, 136212
- Plate 65. Framing of Fort Conger with man on roof (image #2)—August 1881  
Repository:  
-NARA RG111, SC # 91119  
-NARA RG 27 Box 17, FT. Conger framing #2
- Plate 66. Fort Conger ‘5 days old’, August 18, 1881  
Repository:  
- NARA RG111, SC # 91120  
-AMHI “Building Ft. Conger, Aug. 1881”  
-LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image # 90 “Conger 5 days old”  
-NARA RG 27 Box 17, Conger framing #3
- Plate 67. *Proteus* stopped by ice as she departs Fort Conger, August, 1881  
Repository:  
- AMHI,  
-NARA RG111, SC # 91166,  
-NARA RG 27 Box 17 ,  
-LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Image 33103  
-Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG Plate# 9
- Plate 68. East side of Fort Conger banked with snow— October 1881  
Repository:  
-NARA RG111,SC #91155  
-LOC Lot 4262, Rice Image #86, 136207  
-AMHI “Ft. Conger Banked With Snow”

Plate 69. West side of Fort Conger— March 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG 27 Box 17 , #91152

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image #12 136199

-NARA RG111, SC

-AMHI

-Explorers Club, EC-AWG, Plate#12

Plate 70. Front view of Fort Conger with observation hut on left — 1881/1882

Repository:

-LOC

Plate 71. Greely's Corner with Henrietta's flag — October 1881

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC # 91240, "Lt. Greely's Corner at Ft. Conger taken Oct 5, 1881, the day the sun left."

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice image #9, 136208

Plate 72. Greely's "Corner" at Fort Conger—August 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111 SC # 91142

-LOC lot 4262 – Rice Image # 92, 136204

Plate 73. Lt. Lockwood's Corner— June, 1883

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC # 91143

-LOC lot 4262 – Rice Image #94, 136191

### **Fort Conger Environs**

Plate 74. Decoration Day at Ft. Conger, plaque in memory of H.M.S. Discovery—August 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC #91141

-AMHI

-LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Image # 114, 33102

Plate 75. Sgt. Jewell taking meteorological readings in observation hut at Ft. Conger— August 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC #91244

-AMHI

-LOC lot 4262 - Rice Item # XKE, 9841

Plate 76. Sgt. R.R. Schneider hauling ice with pup dog team

Repository:

-AMHI #50 on photo

-NARA RG111, SC # 91159

-LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Item # 84, 33096

Plate 77. Eskimo Jens returning from seal hunt near Ft. Conger — June 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC#91243

-AMHI: "Eskimo Jens Returning From Seal Hunt"

-LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Item # 126, 136201

Plate 78. Eskimo Jens and Dr. Pavy skin seal near Fort Conger —May 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC #91169

- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Item # 127, 136197

-AMHI # 52

Plate 79. Arctic clouds over Bellot Island with stranded ice in foreground

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262 Rice Image #

-NARA RG111, SC # 91231

Plate 80. The steam launch “*Lady Greely*” in Discovery Harbor— 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC#91168

-AMHI

-NARA RG27 Box 17

-LOC lot 4262 -Rice Item #47 , 136205

-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG Plate # 47

Plate 81. View From Brevoort Island

Repository

-NARA RG27 Box17

-Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG Plate #33

Plate 82. Sample Hill Side about Fort Conger”

Repository:

-AMHI

### **Artifacts And Fauna**

Plate 83. Ancient Eskimo sled found near Cape Baird, 87°-30' N.

Repository

-NARA RG111, SC# 91170

-AMHI

-NARA RG 27 Box 17

-LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Image # 45

-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate #45

Plate 84. Eskimo artifacts and modern sledges near Fort Conger —1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC# 91171

-AMHI

-NARA RG27 box 17

-LOC lot 4262 -Rice Image # 29

-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG Plate # 29

Plate 85. Display of Eskimo artifacts found at Cape Baird —1882

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262 –Rice Item #83

Plate 86. Eskimo relics found at junction of Lake Hazen and Ruggles River— June 1882

Repository

-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 28

-LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Image # 28

Plate 87. Display of Eskimo artifacts —1882

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262 –Rice Item #129

Plate 88. Wolf killed near Ft. Conger

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 97

Plate 89. Lake Alexandra Char — August 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG27 Box 17

-LOC Lot 4262 -RiceImage # 43

-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 43

Plate 90. Three dead musk oxen near Fort Conger, August 1881

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Image # 128

- Explorers Club: EC-AO

Plate 91. Musk Oxen killed on Cairn Hill near Ft. Conger— August 1882

Repository:

-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG List # 44

-LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Image # 44

Plate 92. Dead Musk Oxen near Ft. Conger — August 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111,SC #91122

-NARA RG 27 box 17

-LOC lot 4262 - Rice Image #128

Plate 93. Plate 90. Musk ox killed near Ft. Conger—August 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG 27 Box 17

-LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Item # 22

-Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG Plate # 22: “Head of Musk ox killed near Ft. Conger”

Page 93. Side view of Musk Ox head —August 1882

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Image # 72

Page 95. Sgt. Frederick with Musk Ox calves captured near Ft. Conger— September, 1882.

Repository:

-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG List #1

### **Landscapes Near Fort Conger**

Plate 96. Coal Seam with reflection in Watercourse Ravine — October 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC# 912429

-LOC Lot 4262 –Rice Image #27,

-NARA RG27 Box 17

-Explorers Club: EC-AWG Plate 27



Plate 97. Ice Foot on Watercourse Bay— May 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC# 91213

Plate 98. Chattel's Grotto, Watercourse Ravine— October 1882

Repository:

-LOC lot 4262 – Rice Image # 58— “Chattel's Grotto, Watercourse Ravine, 10/82.”

-NARA RG111 SC# 91227 —“Chattel's grotto in Watercourse Ravine- Oct. 6, 1882”

Plate 99. Plate South side of Lake Alexandra— June 1882

Repository:

-NARA RG111, SC #91185

-LOC Lot 4262 – Rice Item # 56, 136189 : Lake Alexandra, South side, June 1882

Plate 100. Lake Alexandra, looking west — June 1882

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image #55 136187

Plate 101. Two men with sleds on the north side of Lake Alexander looking west, 8 miles from Ft. Conger — June 1882

Repository:

- AMHI “Lake Alexandra near Discovery Harbor. Looking west, 1882

-NARA RG111, SC # 91242,

-NARA RG27 Box 17

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Item #39, 136186

Plate 102. Lake Alexandra

Repository:

-NARA RG27, Box 17

Plate 103. Chandler Fiord, Miller Island in center, South side Archers Fiord in background

Repository:

-LOC Rice Group item #78

-NARA RG111, SC # 91215, “Chandler Fiord, Miller Island in center, south side, Archers Fiord in background”

Plate 104. Chandler Fiord looking westward, taken from Morning Ice westward of Miller Island— at the break in center of picture Chandler's Fiord shows to the westward.

Repository:

-LOC Rice Group #81

-NARA RG111, SC # 91219.

Plate 105. View up Bellows Valley — June 1882 (snowing when photographed)

Repository:

-LOC Rice Group Image #74.

-NARA RG111, SC # 91217.

Plate 106. Bluffs separating Bellow's Valley to right and Black Rock Vale to the left— June 1882

Repository:

-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 54

-NARA RG111, SC # 91224.

Plate 107. View in Bellows Valley— June 1882

Repository:

- NARA RG 27 Box 17
- Explorers Club NYC, EC-AWG Plate# 24
- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image #24

Plate 108. Cliffs named 'Devils Head' in Bellows Valley— West Coast of Lady Franklin Bay, June 1882

Repository:

- NARA RG111, SC# 91233.

Plate 109. Greenland Coast from Cape Beechy" (June 1882)

Repository:

- NARA RG 27 Box 17
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG Page number 9 in album

### **Ice and Men**

Plate 110. Split berg with man and snow shoes in 'crack' at Breakwater point, Lady Franklin Bay— June 1882

Repository:

- NARA RG111 SC #91207
- NARA RG27 Box 17
- LOC Lot 4262 – Rice Image # 11
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO, Plate # 1

Plate 111. Outside ice-foot at Distant Cape, Robeson's Channel — June 1882 (Stw'd Biederbick)

Repository:

- NARA RG111 SC #91192
- LOC Rice Image # 15, 136203
- AMHI # 98
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO Plate # 15

Plate 112. Pressed up floeberg at Breakwater Point, Lady Franklin Bay— June 1882.

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262 –Rice Image OX
- NARA RG111, SC # 91235
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO, plate # 17

Plate 113. Floeberg in St. Patrick's Bay— June 1882

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262 - Rice Image # 35
- NARA RG111 SC# 91238
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO plate # 35

Plate 114. Floeberg in Robeson's Channel— 1882

Repository:

- NARARG27 Box 17
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO, plate #3
- LOC Lot 4262 – Rice Image # 115

Plate 115. Paleocrystic Block near Distant Cape, Robeson Channel— 1882

Repository:

- NARA RG27, Box 17
- LOC Lot 4262 – Rice Image # 10
- NARA RG111 SC #91236
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWC, Plate #10,

Plate 116. Pressed up ice near Lady Franklin Bay — June 1882

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image #32
- AMHI
- NARA RG111 SC # 91194
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO, Plate # 32

Plate 117. Decayed floeberg on west shore of Robeson's Channel — June 1882

Repository:

- LOC lot 4262- Rice Image #103 “Two men in front of ‘ice bars’”.
- AMHI
- NARA RG111 SC # 91216

Plate 118. “Behind the Bars” floeberg with pendant icicles, Lady Franklin Bay— June 1882

Repository:

- LOC lot 4262- Rice Image #2
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 2

Plate 119. Cape Murchison with pressed up ice and pyramid floeberg— June 1882

(Pvt. Connell in front of pyramid)

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 41
- NARA RG111 SC #91421
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate #41

Plate 120. The ice foot near Distant Cape, Robeson's Channel—

June 1882 ( Stw'd. Biederbick)

Repository:

- AMHI #103
- NARA RG111 SC # 91208
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 26
- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 26

Plate 121. “The Frog”, a paleocrystic floeberg in Robeson Channel — May, 1882

Repository:

- LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image #33
- NARA RG111 SC # 91237
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO, Plate # 33

Plate 122. Whitehall boats on beach in front of Fort Conger

Repository:

NARA: RG 27, Box17

Plate 123. “Mushroom” ice with Man— Greely?

Repository:

-NARA RG 27 Box17

- Plate 124. "Man on beached ice"  
Repository:  
-NARA RG27 Box 17
- Plate 125. Twin bergs on the ice foot at Lady Franklin Bay- Sept, 1881  
Repository:  
- NARA RG111 SC Plate # 91200  
-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 19  
-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 19
- Plate 126. Ice Foot-unknown location  
Repository:  
-LOC Lot 4262, Rice Image # 117
- Plate 127. Large mass of jumbled ice...  
Repository:  
NARA RG111, SC91201
- Plate 128. Pressed up ice near Water Course Bay, Robeson Channel —1882  
Repository:  
-NARA RG111, SC #91202
- Plate 129. "A discouraging outlook"; the view from Cape Murchison to Thank God Harbor— June 1882  
Repository:  
-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image, #16  
-NARA RG111, SC # 91206  
-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG Plate # 16
- Plate 130. "Rubble and Hummocky Ice" in Robeson's Channel — June 1882  
Repository:  
- NARA RG27 Box 17  
- LOC Lot 4262 -Rice Group Image #38  
- NARA RG111, SC # 91201  
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG Plate # 38
- Plate 131. Ice foot at Cape Murchison — June 1882  
Repository:  
-NARA RG 27 Box 17 "Ice Hummocks"  
-LOC Lot 4262, Rice Image # 48  
-NARA RG111, SC # 91204  
-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 48
- Plate 132. Ice foot in Lady Franklin Bay— June 1882  
Repository:  
- NARA RG 27 Box 17  
-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Image # 42  
-Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 42
- Plate 133. Summer Ice near Dutch Island, Lady Franklin Bay  
Repository:  
-LOC Lot 4262, Rice Image  
-NARA RG111 SC # 91234



Plate 134. Robeson's Channel looking south from Dutch Island, May 1882

Repository:

- NARA RG111 SC # 91205
- RG27 Box 17
- LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image # 46
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate #46

Plate 135. Stranded floeberg in Watercourse Bay, September 1881

Repository:

- NARA RG 27Box 17
- LOC Lot 4262-Rice Image # 5
- NARA RG111 SC # 91203
- Explorers Club: EC-AWG, Plate # 5

Plate 136. Floebergs in Watercourse Bay — September 1881

Repository:

- NARA RG 27 Box 17

Plate 137. Floebergs Watercourse Bay 1881,

Repository:

- NARA RG27 Box 17

Plate 138. Floebergs Watercourse Bay, 1881

Repository:

- NARA RG27 Box 17

## **Exploration**

Plate 139. Sgt. Cross in hunting costume

Repository:

- LOC

Plate 140. Lt. Greely and Eskimo Jens with dogs on ice floe in Discovery Harbor- October 1881

Repository:

- AMHI
- NARA RG111 SC, # 91188
- LOC Lot 4262-Rice Group Image #31, 136196
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, Plate # 31

Plate 141. Dr. Octave Pavy and team set out from Ft. Conger to lay out a depot on the north Greenland coast, March 5, 1882

Repository:

- NARA RG111, SC # 91187
- AMHI (AMI photo below notes different names)
- LOC Lot 4262-Rice Group Image # 68 , 136210 "Group and Sled"

Plate 142. Hauling ice at Ft. Conger— March 1882

Repository:

- NARA RG27 Box 17,
- NARA RG111 SC, #91154
- LOC Lot Rice Group 4262 # 34, 47557 Hauling Ice – Jens, Greely, Cross, Kislingbury
- Explorers Club NYC: EC-AWG, EC-AO, Plate #34

- Plate 143. Sgt. Winfield R. Jewell and Eskimo Jens Christiansen starting from Ft. Conger, Grinnell Land to support Dr. Octave Pavy — March 1882  
Repository:  
-NARA RG111, SC #91189  
-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Group Image #63 136188
- Plate 144. Dr. Pavy and party starting for Cape Joseph Henry —March 1882  
Repository:  
-AMHI  
-NARARG111 SC #911  
-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Group Item #65, 136185
- Plate 145. Supporting sledges leaving Ft. Conger for North Greenland — April 1882  
Repository:  
- NARA RG111 SC #91186  
- AMHI “A sledge Party Ready to Start”:  
-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Group Item # 70, 12999
- Plate 146. Lt. J. B. Lockwood, Sgt. David L. Brainard and Eskimo Frederick leave Ft. Conger on April 3, 1882. They reached 83° 24' North latitude 40° 46 W. Longitude.  
Repository:  
-NARA RG111 SC # 91191  
-LOC Lot 4262- Rice Group Item # 61, 136190  
-AMHI
- Plate 147. Lockwood, Jewell & Eskimo Christiansen leave Ft. Conger with dog team —April 1882  
Repository:  
-LOC Lot 4262-Rice Group item #68  
-AMHI  
-NARA RG111 SC # 91190  
- Explorers Club: EC-AO
- Plate 148. Pvt. Francis Long and Pvt. William Whistler starting from Ft. Conger on May 15, 1882 for a trip down Archer Fiord to examine the cached English depot.  
Repository:  
- NARA RG111 SC # 91196  
-LOC lot 4262- Rice Group Item #68b ,136213
- Plate 149. Plate Lt. Greely and party starting for the exploration of Grinnell Land— April 1882  
Repository:  
-LOC  
-Explorers Club: EC-AO
- Plate 150. Dogs and sled on ice—April 1882  
Repository:  
-NARA RG 27 Box 17
- Plate 151. Fort Conger area, “A short trip with dog sled” —1882  
Repository:  
-AMHI

## **MAPS**

Page 38: Map 1: Route of Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, 1881. Used with permission from *Ghosts of Cape Sabine*, by Leonard, F. Guttridge

Page 76: Map 2: Environs of Fort Conger, Ellesmere Island, from *Three Years of Arctic Service*

## **Additional images within text of *Arctic Ambitions***

Fig. 1. Survivors at welcome home parade in Market Square, Portsmouth, N.H. August 4, 1884

Fig. 2. *The Icebergs*, Frederick Church, 1861, Ft. Worth Museum of Fine Arts

Fig. 3. Discovery Bay, summer. Site of the proposed Colony. From *Howgate's Polar Colonization; Memorial to Congress*, 1879, copied from Nares

Fig. 4. A.W. Greely as Civil War Sergeant, Photo courtesy of Jane Greely

Fig. 5. George Rice, Moses Rice Studio, 1881, Courtesy NARA

Fig. 6. Greely Relief Expedition of 1884; photo taken by Ensign Harlow in Greenland (AMHI)

Fig. 8. Ft. Conger, courtesy of LOC

Fig. 8. Ft. Conger engraving from A.W. Greely's, "*Three Years of Arctic Service*"

Fig. 9. Original group photo taken before departure

Fig. 10. Group photo taken before departure, but after "cut and past" of new members

Fig. 11. Split Berg with man in crack Breakwater point, Lady Franklin Bay- June 1882  
Courtesy The Explorers Club

Fig. 12. Engraving based on split berg from A.W. Greely's, "*Three Years of Arctic Service*"

## **Additional images within Chapter II**

Fig. 13. Sketch of Cape Sabine and Littleton Island by Pvt. Beebe of the *Neptune*, 1882 Courtesy NARA II

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## **DIARIES**

- George W. Rice Diary, Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, 1881-1884  
Dartmouth College Library, Rauner Special Collections
  - H.S. Gardiner Private Journal, Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, 1881-1884
  - H.S. Gardiner Official Diary, Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, 1881-1884
- Both Gardiner Journal and Diary were originally part of the Fort Monmouth Collection which was moved to HQ CECOM, AMSEL-PE-OD, Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703-5000 Tel. 732-532-3736 DSN 992-3736.
- A copy and transcription are now included in the Dartmouth College Library, Rauner Special Collections